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JANUARY 29, 2004

Theology professor delivers annual St. Thomas Day lecture

BY JULIETTE PAUL '05
ASST. COMMENTARY EDITOR

Snow did not stop hot chocolate-sipping Dominicans, philosophy professors, and economics majors from attending Rev. Albino Barrera's, O.P., Wednesday afternoon lecture

LECTURES

"Revisiting Malthus's Theodicy of Scarcity: A Thomistic Appraisal of the Nature of Economic Life."

Barrera, an associate professor of theology spoke in the Feinstein Function Room about the metaphysical foundation of economic life and the nature of "material scarcity" in the world, in other words, poverty. "Why does God permit poverty?" It is a question many ask themselves and one that Barrera hoped to answer. Barrera offered a Thomistic alternative to Thomas Malthus' 1798 *Essay on Population*, and concluded that chronic poverty is evidence of humanity's collective moral failure.

Barrera's lecture, the St. Thomas Aquinas Annual Lecture, coincided with the Catholic feastday of St. Thomas Aquinas. In an opening address, Dr. Patrick Reid, Theology Department Chair, introduced the Lisska Book Award in Philosophy and Theology, a small annual endowment given to a sophomore or junior with a strong commitment to philosophy or theology. This year's recipient was Kristen Lopez '05 who was nominated by Dr. Juan Carlos Flores, assistant profes-

sor of philosophy, for a paper she wrote on Plato's *Phaedrus*.

After Lopez accepted her award, College President Rev. Philip A. Smith, O.P., introduced Barrera by listing a remarkable number of Barrera's degrees and accomplishments. Although a confident speaker, Barrera's humility shone through when he insisted that "the joy of teaching PC students" was his greatest accomplishment.

The unifying theme of Barrera's lecture was that as intelligible and moral beings, humans are given the opportunity to participate in divine governance. "God provides for us through one another," Barrera explained. "We do not interact with an abstract universe, but through intermediate associations,"—a term Barrera used to describe orders humans form together, one being the economy.

Barrera began by recapitulating Thomas Malthus's 1798 *Essay on Population*, which states that material scarcity in the world is God's way of forming our minds since human beings are prone to laziness. Barrera quoted Malthus's essay: "Man is inert, sluggish, and averse from labour unless compelled by necessity." Based on this theory, Malthus was clearly against poor relief.

For poor relief of the Irish during the Potato Famine, "Malthusian thinking had done its damage," Barrera said. "For most of history there has been a

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COURTESY OF MIKE RAIK '05

Mike Raia '05 and Matt Koreiwo '03 volunteer for the Dean campaign

On the campaign trail

BY MEGHAN WELSH '06
NEWS STAFF

To most students, a presidential election year means nothing more than casting a vote. Yet for some, getting involved in the presidential race has become a priority. In the midst of an approaching election year, students from Providence College have become active in various presidential political campaigns.

During the summer of 2003, Mike Raia '05, a former associate editor-in-chief of *The Cowl*, began to research

various democratic campaigns in which he could become involved. He considered Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts but ultimately decided on supporting candidate Howard Dean of Vermont.

Raia, a public service major, felt that Dean cared about many crucial issues and was very outspoken about the downfalls of the Bush administration. One issue in particular that interested Raia was Dean's support of Title I and the No Child Left Behind Act.

While Raia was working at an after-school program last year at Daniel Green Middle

School in Providence, the school lost all of its Title I funding, resulting in the program's termination. Teachers and parents had to pressure the state to get funding back so that the program could continue.

Raia commented, "Last August, I decided to support Dean when he was the only candidate I saw openly speaking about how this issue was important to him. Supporting programs like this is essential to running our country. It made me really believe in Dean and his

VOLUNTEERS/Page 3

Police sub-station to open in mid-February

BY STEPHANIE WODOWSKI '04
SENIOR NEWS STAFF

A new semester, a new police station...well, sub-station. Despite setbacks with building permits and asbestos removal, the Providence Police Department will be

OFF-CAMPUS NEWS

opening a new location around the middle of February at 206 Camden Avenue. It is situated at the intersection of Eaton Street and Douglas Avenue, conveniently located near the new PC Mart.

The property that the new headquarters will be located on has been in the possession of Providence College for less than five years. This past summer, an agreement was reached between the College and the City of Providence to allow the plot of land and the small building on it to be used for this sub-station.

PC is responsible for renovating the first floor of the building for the police department. Initially, the building was set to open in October. However, there have been setbacks with obtaining building permits and bringing the building up

to code.

"The College has done many renovations on the building in a timely fashion," said Lieutenant Steven Casbarro, Commander of District 7. "It was in great disrepair, and a lot of work had to be done in order to make the location habitable."

The officers of District 7, which includes PC, Chad Brown and Smith Hill, currently operate out of a building on Chad Brown St.

Lt. Casbarro has said that the safety of students and citizens in the neighborhood would be the sub-station's main concern. "A lot of assaults on students take place in this area. We're hoping that our proximity to these sites will deter more violence. The sub-station will be a safe-haven in the neighborhood."

Some students have wondered about increased police presence in an area where many live, work, and party.

Lt. Casbarro explained that the relocation of the department should not change anything except the communication between the police and the off-campus neighborhood. The new department would be a place for members of the College and community to work out



KRISTIN ELLIS '05/The Cowl

The substation at the corner of Eaton Street and Douglas Avenue undergoes extensive renovations it is scheduled to open this February.

differences. He hopes that the three entities can work together to improve the quality of life in the area. He encourages students to stop into the station.

There will be positions available for students to work, doing jobs such as answering phones.

WORLD ▶

As the presidential campaign season rolls on, World has the latest primary results and analysis from New Hampshire.

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A&E ▶

Hailz to da Chief - Joe Mavodones '05 follows the president's lead and offers his State of Hip Hop Nation address.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Endowed Chair has yet to be filled; search continues

Currently, Providence College's first and only endowed chair, the Rev. Robert Randall Distinguished Professorship in Christian Culture, remains empty.

Named after Fr. Randall, a retired professor of the English Department, the endowed chair was first held by Rev. Fergus Kerr, O.P., Regent of Blackfriars College at England's Oxford University who taught an Honors colloquium on the variety of religious experience during the Fall 2002 semester.

As an internationally known scholar, Providence College was "lucky to have him," said Dr. Rodney Delasanta, Director of the Honors Program.

Delasanta credited Rev. Philip Smith, O.P., Ph.D., College President, as coordinating Father Kerr's professorship at PC.

The Randall Chair is a means by which Providence College can achieve a level of scholarship and research. Delasanta said, "It's an attempt on the part of the administration [of Providence College] to situate the College in a scholarly as well as pedagogical setting."

In comparison to other undergraduate institutions, PC is relatively young, not yet a century old, and is therefore trying to develop a more intellectually-based reputation.

Though, as noted by Delasanta, there has been an increased number of publications by Providence College professors, it is still considered to be a "teaching school."

"In order to enhance the scholarly reputation of the College," said Delasanta, "you want to bring in famous scholars from abroad or from other famous institutions."

"There's a certain sense in which the respect that [Providence] College generates in the scholarly community goes

up when you have people of named scholarship credentials," commented Delasanta, and Fr. Kerr is "that type of a sought-after teacher."

The Randall Chair proved to be a success as well-known institutions including the University of Virginia, Boston College, and Villanova University invited Fr. Kerr to give guest lectures.

Providence College is in the process of selecting the chair's next recipient and, said Delasanta, "I'm confident that that will soon be announced."

"Anybody who is an academic of note is certainly eligible," said Delasanta, though in this particular case the College is looking for the holder of the chair to be connected with Christian culture.

Unlike some chairs at other institutions, the Randall chair is revolving. It will be offered to visiting professors of international academic renown who will teach for one, two, or three years in the areas of theology,

philosophy, history, literature, or the social sciences.

Providence College is also considering establishing more endowed chairs, said Delasanta. —Megan Comerford '06

of PC students participating in the event has been increasing over the past several years, with attendance this year at 48 students, double that of last year. —Stephanie Barkus '05

Congress Update

On Monday, January 26, 2003, Providence College's Student Congress held its first official meeting of the spring semester.

A number of upcoming events were discussed at the meeting, including the Freshman Formal, "Rock and Bowl" at Legion Bowling in Cranston, R.I., 104 Nights, and Raymond Cafeteria Appreciation Day.

The next Student Congress meeting will be held Monday, Feb. 2, at 5:30 p.m. in the Slavin Glass Room. All students are welcome. —Lindsey Sheppard '06

PC students participate in March for Life

On Wednesday, Jan. 28, a group of Providence College students traveled to Washington D.C. to participate in the March for Life, a prolife protest held annually in the nation's capital.

According to Katie Cheely '04, co-chair of PC for Life, the students left Wednesday morning and attended a vigil that night. The following day, students participated in the march, which Cheely described as a peaceful protest, with people praying and holding signs while walking through the streets of Washington D.C.

Cheely said that the number

Campus Calendar for Jan. 30 to Feb. 5

to be included in the calendar e-mail kcarr04@providence.edu

30 Friday

4:30 p.m.
South of the Border
Night in McPhail's

8 p.m.
Newport Storm and
Magic Hat Promo
Night in McPhail's

1 Sunday

6 p.m.
Superbowl party in
McPhail's

9 p.m.
Watch *Sex and the
City* and *Curb Your
Enthusiasm* in
McPhail's

12-2:30 p.m.
Balfour Center
Open House in
Harkins 309-310

6-9 p.m.
Asian Food Fest in
the Slavin Soft
Lounge

7 p.m.
Watch Big Monday
games on ESPN in
McPhail's

7 p.m.
Barbie Nation film
and discussion in
Moore Hall III

3 Tuesday

6-9:30 p.m.
Economics Quiz
Bowl in '64 Hall

6:30 p.m.
Face the Issues:
Eating Disorder
Panel in Feinstein
Function Room

8 p.m.
Coffehouse
presents: Ping Pong
Mania in McPhail's

6 p.m.
Killing Us Softly
lecture in Moore
Hall I

7-9 p.m.
"Why Should we
Study Western
Civilization?"
lecture by Professor
Kagan in '64 Hall

8-11 p.m.
Lanny Bell "The
Luxor Temple and
the Cult of the
Royal Ka" in Slavin
Center Room 100

5 Thursday

6 p.m.
Break the Silence
About Eating
Disorders in
Aquinas Lounge

6 p.m.
Economics Guest
Speaker Robert
Penney in Moore
Hall III

8 p.m.
PC Perk &
Dunkin Donuts in
McPhail's

31 Saturday

2 Monday

4 Wednesday

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Volunteers: Some trade in books for real-world experience

continued from front page

campaign.”
This winter break, Raia was given the opportunity to participate in an internship (or “winternship” as the campaign calls it) with Howard Dean. A basic intern taking care of mailings and data work over the break, Raia was increasingly given additional jobs and found himself enjoying what he was doing. At the end of the winter session, Raia was invited to stay and work with the campaign and chose to take some time off from Providence College.

Raia commented, “It was a much easier decision than you might expect it to be. I didn’t have any doubts about this being what I wanted to do. Being able to drop what you are doing to take an opportunity like this is something that you might only get to do once in your life.”

Raia is currently performing the tasks of three roles in the campaign. He is living with a family of Dean supporters in Salem, NH and has become part of the Salem community as a “Dean leader.” He serves as a voice from the campaign in the community who can get to know the people personally. He is a “Wintern Captain” in charge of orienting all new interns to the campaign as they come in. He is also the “Deputy Area Organizer” in the Salem, NH region.

Raia said, “As a Deputy Area Organizer, I’ve dealt with all of the supporters of Dean in the region. We’ve been working on finding volunteers and making phone calls to let others know why we are supporting Gov. Dean.”

Raia also noted that he definitely sees his work on the Dean campaign as being a potential career-determining experience. He has been able to become part of a tight-knit community while working for a community-active



Mike Raia '05, has taken a leave of absence for the semester to work for the Howard Dean campaign full-time. He is currently stationed in New Hampshire and will move with the rest of the campaign to work throughout the Democratic primaries.

COURTESY OF MIKE RAIK '05

presidential campaign, and he can see himself continuing on with such endeavors in the future.

“I’ve gotten to know so many of the people in the community of Salem while I’ve been there,” Raia said. “Politics are not always portrayed as being very personal, but this campaign definitely is.”

While Raia was expecting to have a great experience working for the campaign, one thing he was surprised at was the amount of work that goes into a campaign. He was amazed at all of the dedicated supporters working seven days a week around the clock, a very demanding schedule. Another thing Raia did not expect was the amount of responsibility that would be handed to him in such a short period of time.

“It’s such a fast-paced and exciting environment and there is always so much to do,” Raia said. “All of the responsibilities I have been given have been really great challenges.”

Raia also found it exciting that he is going to be moving on from New Hampshire soon in continuing to work for the campaign. Following Tuesday’s New Hampshire primary, Raia does not even know what state he will be heading to next.

“I’m basically going to just have to pick up and leave and go where the campaign is going,” Raia said. “Some people might find this nerve-wracking or scary, but I think it’s really exciting.”

Bridget Duffy '04 is currently working to support President Bush’s campaign for re-election. She has been interested in political campaigns for years. She has mostly worked for Republican campaigns and has normally been involved in fund-raising aspects. Over the past few years, she has worked on the campaigns of Arlen Specter (R-Penn.) and the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, Mike Fisher.

This semester, Duffy has brought her interest in politics into the Providence College community. She has founded the Coalition of Students for Bush on campus, which she hopes will serve as a forum for students who support the President in his campaign for re-election. Duffy believes it is important for college students to become involved in politics, especially on college campuses.

“Besides simply working with the fundraising aspect for the Bush campaign, I’ve been in contact with them to start organizing the coalition down here in Providence,” Duffy said. “We’re getting all kinds of voting material and things like bumper stickers. I’m hoping that we will also be able to participate in some rallies for Bush and work on supporting the campaign in any way that we can.”

Duffy chose to support President Bush and his campaign for a variety of reasons. She respects his ideas of a less centralized government system and admires how he is pro-business in his views of the American society and economy.

Duffy said, “I feel like President Bush is a great role model for Americans, which has made me really want to support him. I also feel like he is a really great public speaker and that he has done a wonderful job leading our country. He deserves to be re-elected.”

Serving as a youth coordinator and fundraiser for the Bush campaign has been rewarding for Duffy and has helped her to affirm her interests in working in politics after she graduates this spring. She would like to work for the Republican National Committee and campaign fundraisers on a local or national level.

Both Raia and Duffy noted that Providence College as a whole has been incredibly supportive of their work on the campaigns and that what they have learned in classes here has enhanced their ability to carry out necessary tasks.

“I wasn’t sure how the classes from my major [Public Service] would contribute to my work on the campaign,” Raia admitted. “However, all of these classes have been incredibly helpful and relevant to what I am being asked to do every day. Taking classes like the ones I have has prepared me very well.”

Raia noted that the Political Science Department has been encouraging him to continue on with his work on the campaign. He is hoping to receive internship credit for his work on the campaign.

Duffy has also been impressed with the support she has received from the political science department and how her classes at Providence College have proved relevant.

“Sometimes in real life, the things we learn in school don’t exactly apply, but that has not been the case here,” Duffy said. “Being in class has helped me learn how to debate with people about political issues, especially when it comes to differences in opinions between political parties. I know what my convictions are, and Providence College has helped me learn how to stick with them in politics.”



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Lecture: Professor mixes theology, philosophy and economics

continued from front page

struggle with material sufficiency." Yet, Barrera explained, only since the 1950s has society as a whole seen an increase in consumption. When asked if he thought there was hope for economic life based on human generosity and devoid of poverty in the future, Barrera said, "I am very optimistic because you can never underestimate the good of people."

The good of people. According to Barrera, this is the key to an economy successful in relieving poverty. Using Aquinas's argument for the three-fold causality of God as a reference, Barrera argued against Malthus's acceptance of poor relief.

In his *Summa Theologica*, Aquinas states, "Governance employs secondary causes." Barrera later elaborated on this, saying that "secondary causality" is human beings' role in the way God governs the world. "Economic agency," Barrera said, "requires real secondary causality"—or rather, our cooperation in making economy work efficiently.

Therefore, Barrera concluded in his lecture, even though poverty is part of

the nature of population, poor relief is not useless because, "We are invited to be venues for which God provides for us." In other words, God gives us the responsibility to participate in the governance of the world by handling our own economy with collective generosity. By the collective generosity of all human beings, the economy might provide for universal material sustenance.

Peering over the podium, Barrera addressed a couple of economics majors seated in the front row. "Think of economy," he said, "as the communication of the goodness of God being maximized." Laughter was heard throughout the audience.

This statement did not go unchallenged. While Barrera did mention drawbacks and impediments to his theological resolution to the economy, many doubtful hands went up.

Dr. Laura Landen, associate professor and Director of the Environmental Studies Program, said that Barrera's theory would only work if we could guarantee that population would decrease with poverty. "Theology is external to a market driven economy,"

Landen stated. Yet, she quickly added, "We will always need the external to complement economics."

Lopez commented positively on Barrera's lecture. "Most people are knowledgeable in one field," she said. "The way Fr. Al pulls many disciplines together in such a modest way is inspiring."

Other students responded similarly. Ted Deeb '05 thought the lecture was an enlightening experience. "I have never heard someone assert the overall goal of economics to satisfy the perfection of

God's creation," Deeb said. "It is a great starting point for genuinely Christian economics. We as Catholics need to talk more about that."

"Why would God create us not to rise above our problems?" Barrera said in a final rebuttal to Malthus. "Human powers and grace will always be able to rise above whatever difficulties they will encounter. It's possible to do this."

"I sure hope so," was the last statement concluding the lecture, offered up by someone in the crowd.

All the news that
couldn't fit in print

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PC for Life goes to Washington

BY MATT SULLIVAN '06
WORLD STAFF

While other students slept soundly at 5:30 a.m. last Wednesday morning, Jan. 21, 38 members of PC for Life boarded a bus for the first of two nine-hour rides in 48 hours. These early risers were headed to join hundreds of thousands in Washington, D.C. for the annual National Prayer Vigil for Life and the March for Life to pray and protest against abortion, cloning, euthanasia, and assisted suicide.

The marchers were led by PC for Life co-presidents Katie Cheely '04 and Katie McBrine '04 and Assistant Chaplain Rev. John Paul Walker O.P. The group left Providence by bus early Wednesday morning to travel to Potomac, Maryland where they stayed that evening.

Wednesday night, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C., PC for Life members joined an overflowing crowd of approximately 5,000 others for Mass as part of the National Prayer Vigil for Life. The main celebrant, William Cardinal Keeler, Archbishop of Baltimore, and Chairman of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops Committee of Pro-Life Activities, was joined by priests, bishops, and cardinals from across the country.

Echoing the words of Pope John Paul II in his homily, the cardinal urged the congregation to, "be not afraid" in taking their stand on abortion. "Attending Mass at the Basilica was really striking because of the overflowing crowd that was filled with so many young people committed to defending the culture of life," said Lizzie Lydon '07.

On Thursday morning Rev. Walker



Courtesy of JULIETTE PAUL '05

Thirty-eight PC students traveled to Washington, D.C. last Thursday to participate in the annual March for Life to pray and protest against abortion, cloning, euthanasia, and assisted suicide.

led the marchers in Mass at the Dominican House of Studies located on the campus of the Catholic University of America in D.C. Rev. Walker remarked on the purposes of the masses as part of the trip. "It is important to realize the true solution to this issue is the power of prayer and God, civil protest can change laws but only love can change hearts, this country needs laws and hearts to change on this issue."

Afterwards the group headed to the Ellipse, a park in front of the White House to join the 31st annual March for Life. The March has taken place every year on the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision and its companion *Doe v. Bolton* were handed down by the Supreme Court on Jan. 22, 1973. These decisions legalized abortion at any stage during pregnancy.

Speakers including politicians, such as Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.) and Rep. Pat Toomey (R-Pa.) and various leaders in the right to life movement addressed the

crowd before the march.

Among the speakers was President George W. Bush who addressed the crowd via telephone saying to marchers, "You believe, as I do, that every person, however frail or vulnerable, is a blessing. Each of us has a special dignity, a place and purpose in this world. And in the Declaration of Independence, our founders stated this self-evident truth: The right to life does not come from government; it comes from the Creator of life."

Bush also cited legislation he signed, such as the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act in November. This law was the first federal restriction on an abortion procedure since *Roe v. Wade* was decided. Also gathering throughout the nation on Thursday were abortion supporters in events sponsored by Planned Parenthood of America. At an event in Washington DC Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) introduced legislation called the Free-

dom of Choice Act of 2004 which would codify *Roe v. Wade* into federal law.

After hearing speakers on the Ellipse, the marchers began to move down Constitution Ave. towards the Capitol building. In the crowd marchers carried signs like "Face it, abortion kills" and "Women deserve better than abortion."

The March proceeded up Capitol Hill past the Capitol building before turning towards and ending at the Supreme Court. No official estimate is given of the number of marchers but the number is believed to be in hundreds of thousands.

Isaac Wash '07 said of the marchers, "I was surprised and glad to see so many young people and the amount of people who went on the bus from PC." Commenting on the march McBrine said, "As heartening as it is to see so many enthusiastic supporters of life. I always march with the hope that this march will not be necessary in the future when our country protects the life of all our citizens, born and unborn."

With the march over, PC for Life members returned to the bus to head back to Providence, where they arrived back early Friday morning.

Cheely expressed what she considered the most memorable aspect of the trip, "One of the most amazing experiences of the Pro-Life March and the Vigil Mass is seen... in PC's own group of students of all different years and majors who decided to make the sacrifice of missing two days of school, and going through a nine hour bus ride, to make a pilgrimage to promote the sanctity of life. The tremendous spirit and fervor at the March is both impressive and inspiring."

Nomination slipping from Dean's grasp

BY KATHRYN TREADWAY '06
ASST. WORLD EDITOR

Since Sen. John Kerry's (D-Mass.) surprising victory in Iowa last week, every news program has diligently looked to New Hampshire with curiosity as to whether the self-described "Comeback" Kerry could continue his momentum and impose another setback for Dr. Howard Dean.

Sen. Kerry did precisely that, with three-quarters of the state's precincts reporting he had won a solid 39 percent of the vote. Kerry told the Associated Press he regarded this win as "an enormous victory, a huge turnaround." Minutes later he addressed his supporters in Manchester, N.H., with, "I love New Hampshire — and I love Iowa too!" His win tonight garnered Kerry 22 of the 2,161 delegates needed for the Democratic nomination.

Dean's shortcomings in both Iowa and now New Hampshire are a hard morale hit for the man who early in this race seemed to be the clear front-runner. Dean won 26 percent of the vote in New Hampshire, placing second, which was better than his third-place showing in Iowa's caucuses. "We came in a solid second," he said on CNN. "We did what we had to do." Dean said he believes he has grass-roots support behind him, and

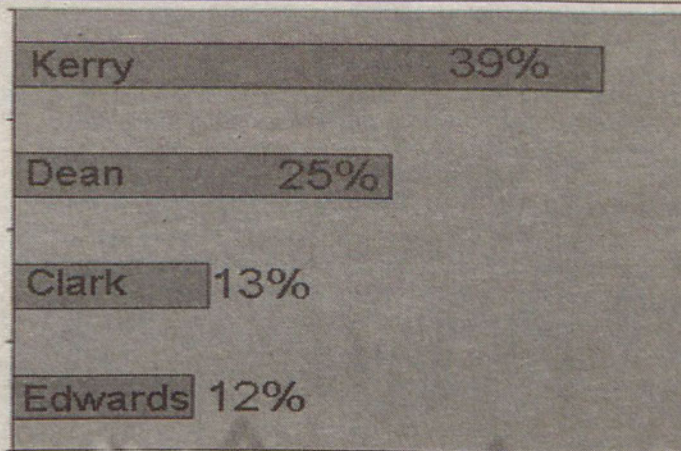
that is what is propelling his campaign. His speech to his supporters was much more subdued than his highly publicized energetic one in Iowa last week. Dean may be down, but is by no means defeated. The New Hampshire primary does not necessarily mean a clear road for Kerry; Dean could, like Bill Clinton in 1992, use his second place showing in New Hampshire to recharge his campaign.

Gen. Wesley Clark and Sen. John Edwards (D-N.C.) battled for third place with Clark just barely inching ahead. This third place victory is a big step for Clark who entered the nomination race late. Edwards said he was pleased with his showing, although he admitted he desperately needs a victory in his home state of South Carolina, which is just one of several Southern and Western states holding primaries this coming Tuesday, Feb. 3. Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) had a poor showing of just 9 percent but will remain in the nomination race.

Exit polls of New Hampshire voters showed that the biggest issues in the state were health care, the war in Iraq, and the economy. Two-thirds of the voters surveyed said they opposed the war, possibly making it a potent issue for November in New Hampshire, which President George W. Bush narrowly carried in 2000.

Dean has been the loudest and most

Results of the New Hampshire Democratic Caucus on Tuesday, January 27



RYAN WENK '04/The Cowl

decisive opponent of the war in Iraq, yet the results of the New Hampshire primary show that Kerry had a higher percentage of those voters who oppose the war in Iraq. Kerry's 13 percent margin of victory has not slowed his campaign-

ing schedule. In the next week he will visit every state holding primaries on Tuesday in an effort to reach out to as many voters as possible.

Sources: CNN, New York Times

Week in Review

Compiled by Peter Smith '04

National

Budget Office releases semi-annual spending figures

The U.S. Congressional Budget Office says the federal government faces a record deficit of \$477 billion. In its semi-annual report to Congress, the budget agency also says cumulative deficits over the next ten years will add up to nearly \$1.9 trillion, marking a significant increase from the agency's most recent 10-year projection of 1.4 trillion.

Many Democrats and some of the more fiscally conservative Republicans have criticized the Bush administration for the budget deficits of the past few years. Last year's \$374.2 billion deficit was the largest in U.S. history. Some Democrats want to change or abandon Bush's ten-year tax cut plan passed in 2001. Administration officials have responded saying their budget outlines a plan for limiting discretionary spending and cutting the annual deficit in half by 2009.

International

U.S. delegates meet with Gaddafi

Two United States congressmen are visiting Libya in an effort to reestablish ties with the country's leader Col. Muammar Gaddafi. Curt Weldon (R-Pa.) and Solomon Ortiz (D-Tx.) visited the capital, Tripoli, and met with the Libyan leader to discuss the issue of weapons of mass destruction and visit a nuclear facility near the capital city. The trip comes following a promise by Col. Gaddafi last month to abandon a nuclear weapons program. Washington severed ties with Tripoli in 1981, accusing the country of supporting terrorism. Weldon and Ortiz are the first U.S. delegates to visit Tripoli in 38 years. All sides were decidedly vague in their descriptions of the meetings. Commenting afterwards Ortiz said, "we want to forget the past — on this day we want to turn a new page."

Science

Mars rover delivers new images

NASA officials say photos taken by the newly-landed spacecraft *Opportunity* have yielded valuable new photographic images of Mars' surface. The spacecraft landed early Sunday in a shallow crater and has begun the process of shooting a 360-degree image of its landing area using a panoramic camera.

Jim Bell, the team's leading camera specialist, called the new images a "Holy Grail for geologists."

Opportunity's sister craft, *Spirit*, remains in bad shape. After landing on Jan. 3, the rover stopped communicating early last week after what scientists called a "very serious anomaly" disrupted its movement. Although scientists are in contact with *Spirit* and addressing the problem it is doubtful if the rover will return to full strength.

Sources: Reuters, BBC, Voice of America



BY SARAH LONG '04
WORLD EDITOR

Professors favor Dean in campaign contributions

Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean has received twice as much money from college professors than any other candidate, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. This is part of a broader trend in which the education industry is contributing more money to political candidates and parties.

The education industry, which includes professors, lecturers, and other college employees, gave a total of \$2.4 million to all presidential candidates in the first three quarters of this year, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. Dean has received \$719,000, while the second highest Democratic

candidate, Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.), has garnered \$325,000. The education industry has given a total of \$680,000 to President Bush.

The Center is a non-profit group that tracks money in politics.

The education industry ranks 15th among all industries for all political contributions, compared to 33rd in 2002. Sixty-five percent of this money goes to Democrats.

Steve Weiss, the Center's Community Director, said, "It's remarkable. It's highly unusual to see education rank highly among industries for a major presidential candidate." He said he believes that usually, college professors do not have political agendas, such as labor unions or business interests.

So why have there been more contri-

butions from college professors this year? Some speculate that the presidential campaign's focus on international affairs, namely, struggles in Iraq and with terrorism, have attracted those from academia.

Though educators make up the third largest contributors to Dean by occupation, a spokesman for the Dean campaign said that they have not actively sought the support of college professors. The trend of increasing contributions from educators may indicate that college professors will be a focus for candidates, especially those that get a larger proportion of contributions from the non-business sector.

Sources: Center for Responsive Politics, Associated Press

Weekly Spotlight

Sen. John Kerry

BY JILL SZARO
WORLD STAFF '05

With the unfolding events of the Democratic primaries dominating the recent headlines of news broadcasts, many may be having a hard time distinguishing among the candidates. For some who may be voting for the first time in the upcoming 2004 presidential elections, now may be the opportune time to begin to learn about the backgrounds and issues of each of the candidates vying for a chance to oppose President Bush. One man who has had a recent revival in the news is Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) who shocked the nation by winning the Iowa caucuses last week.

A graduate of Yale University in 1966, Kerry enlisted in the Navy and served in the Vietnam War, where he earned 3 Purple Hearts, a Silver Star, and a Bronze Star for his service in combat. However, when he returned to the United States scarred and angered at what he had witnessed in Vietnam, he became one of the leaders of the Viet-

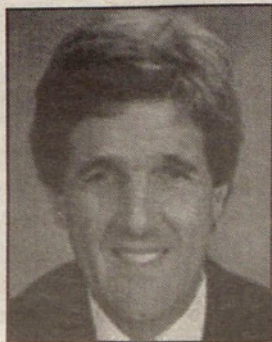
nam Veterans Against the War and the co-founder the Vietnam Veterans of America.

After his involvement in protesting the Vietnam War, John Kerry furthered his education by going to law school and then served as an assistant district attorney in Massachusetts. Kerry settled on a career in politics when he was elected Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts in 1982 and then into the United States Senate in 1984, where he is currently serving his fourth term.

Kerry has said, "I'm running for President to make the country we love safer, stronger, and more secure. I'm asking every American to be a citizen soldier again, committed to leaving no American behind."

Some of Kerry's major campaign promises include lowering taxes for all Americans, making college affordable for every student, sending American troops in Iraq home quickly and safely, and creating a health care plan for America that is affordable and realistic for families.

Sources: The New York Times, the Washington Post, www.johnkerry.com



ODDLY ENOUGH

Bush boosts job economy by stopping at diner

In an effort to boost the job market, President Bush ordered take-out at Nothin' Fancy Cafe in New Mexico, spending \$42.95 a meal for his flight back to Washington.

According to reporters, he walked into the diner, put his arm around the owner, and declared, "I need some ribs."

When the reporters asked questions, he did not cooperate, and said instead "you've got plenty of money in your pocket," suggesting that they too should patronize the diner and contribute to the economy.

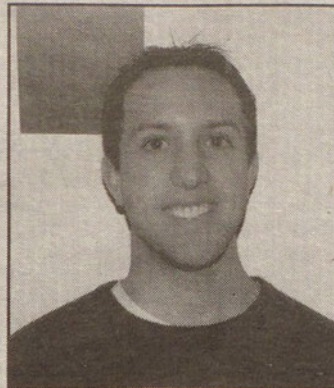
On the way out, Bush said, "Let me explain how the economy works. When you spend money to buy food, it helps this lady put some money in her pocket. It makes it more likely somebody is going to find work."

Democratic presidential candidates have criticized Bush for not helping to create more jobs in the growing U.S. economy.

—Sarah Long '04
Source: Reuters

Ask PC

Why are we sending rovers to Mars?



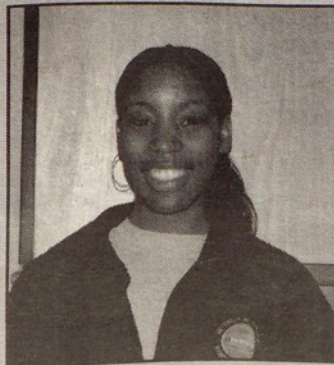
"Because we screwed up the first time by not using the metric system."

Bryan Bechtel '04



"To find out if men are really from Mars."

Nora Griffin '06



"To shoot Britney Spears's new video."

Gayle Nwafili '05



"So we didn't have to focus on the war in Iraq."

Katie Schoen '06

Compiled by Kathryn Treadway '06

Benefits of Civ

BY CHRIS ACKLEY '06
COMMENTARY STAFF

Last Friday was a typical end to the work week here at Providence College. Rocks Liquors prepared for the late afternoon rush and my roommates skipped yet another installment of Western Civilization. This has become less a tradition and more of a sacred creed. In the words of their spiritual leader, Assistant Professor Richard Derderian, "Here at Providence College the weekend starts on Thursday." Not to appear blasphemous, but on that same Friday I realized that, contrary to popular belief, a lecture on the life of Friedrich Nietzsche can be useful, even on a Friday morning.

Sadly, I am often persecuted by my roommates for going to class, reading, exercising and using proper dental hygiene. However, unfazed, I still go to class and I still brush. Most of the time.

Like most of my opinions, my defense of Civ stems from summer camp. When your parents send you to summer camp, they pay thousands of dollars so you can play dodgeball, kiss guys/girls at night, and become horribly corrupted by kids, like me, who refuse to admit that they will ever get a real job. It's the best.

Summer camps often hire a portion of their staff from an organization called Camp America, which recruits teenagers from all over the world to work at American summer camps. Camps boasted of enriching camper's sense of "diversity" and "world perspective". Also, they could get away with paying these foreign counselors absolutely no money. They were only contractually obligated to divvy up one family size bag of Chex Party Mix to a group of 30 or so counselors every two weeks. They ate sparingly and sent what they could back to their families.

One of these foreign counselors was a crazy kid from Montreal named Bruno Guay. Bruno talked slowly with a thick French-Canadian accent about getting shot by the Canadian government with rubber bullets. His favorite phrase was "Be progressive, man." Bruno started the first Communist cabin by forcing his group of eight-year-olds to throw all their clothes in the middle of the cabin and share threads. He was a wild dude.

I guess Bruno thought I was worthy of his progressivism and needed to be tested. Late one night a bunch of us were out in the woods by a fire we had built. Suddenly, I felt something warm and wet, like clothes that come out of the dryer too soon. Bruno was casually urinating on my leg. As you can imagine, I got upset and started yelling at him. He retaliated by demanding that I punch him in the face. Now I was thoroughly confused, but resisted fighting back because I didn't believe in violence and also hadn't grown armpit hair. Then Bruno said something to me that I will never forget, but never understood until last week. "F— that Christian bull-sh or you will always be a slave." Bruno left immediately and vaguely apologized the next day, referring to himself as a misunderstood *Urbemensch*. He was disappointed that I did not punch him in the face.

Over the course of this one Civ class a strange and unsettling experience in my life became disturbingly clear. Bruno's twisted experiment reeked of Nietzschean rhetoric. I had received a strange hands-on philosophy lesson, which until the aid of Civ, had no context or meaning. The most common argument against Civ is that nothing we learn is practical in the real world. This is just not true. If I were a good Civ student, which I am not, I could have brilliantly responded with my own philosophy and punched Bruno in the face with logic—the most deadly fist of all. It is possible that I would have read Nietzsche on my own time, but probably not. Right now, our primary job in life is to read and think. It's not that bad. Sometimes teachers might make your classes seem useless, but if you make the most out of them, they are not, Civ included.

Bush offers rhetoric, but not substance

BY STEPHANIE PIETROS '04
SENIOR COMMENTARY STAFF

The State of the Union Address, before nationally televised audiences and a roomful of congressional representatives who clap after every sentence of even a mediocre speech, was once sent to Congress as a kind

of mem-**STATE OF THE UNION**orandum. Any inhabitant of America in the 21st century with a TV knows this is no longer the case. Now, the State of the Union is best if grouped with campaign speeches and infomercials—lots of hype and empty, inflated language with a few items of real interest thrown in to give the appearance of legitimacy. After witnessing the latest rendition of the State of the Union Address this year, I wonder if perhaps the memo approach to this yearly happening was the more desirable.

To start, the address came complete with President Bush's infamous catchphrases that can hardly be good for international relations. Though there was no axis of evil this time around, those Iraqis who have attacked Americans in opposition of the overthrow of Saddam Hussein's regime have been kindly regarded as "thugs." Perhaps the President is correct when he says this, but the lack of tact in making such a statement can hardly be ignored.

Lack of good taste aside, President Bush's use of such strong language does little more than side-step the vagaries of the ongoing war in Iraq. Though he suggests that weapons of mass-destruction programs, as a part of Hussein's reign, have been uncovered, he tellingly avoids the issues of actually finding such weapons. In a similar vein, though perhaps with the intent of diverting

attention from Iraq, we find out, Libya has peacefully disarmed. The United States has overthrown Saddam Hussein, no doubt a long-term positive action for the Iraqi people and the international community, but this does not compensate for the fact that our ostensible purpose for going to war was to uncover the weapons of mass-destruction that have as yet not materialized.

So the American public has been lied to once again, but I might even be able to uneasily accept the war in Iraq given that it is evident some good should eventually come from it, if it were not for the President's implications in his opening remarks that to disagree with his administration's course of action is to somehow deny that terrorists and regimes like Hussein's are a threat to the United States. Bush seems to suggest that those who would question the present administration's actions are living under the "dangerous illusion" that terrorists do not exist at all. What I would like to know is when political opposition meant delusion.

Delusion undercut the whole address. The President has deluded himself into thinking that standardized testing is the band-aid for America's students who are falling behind, while wholly failing to recognize that this is a narrow and imprecise measure of ability, achievement, and improvement. Yet, the No Child Left Behind Act relies all too heavily, nearly solely, on this type of measure. The President has deluded himself into thinking that tax cuts are the panacea for a wide range of the country's ills, including the millions who do not have health insurance. Somehow, a tax cut will enable lower-income Americans to buy their own basic health insurance. Good in theory, but how probable is it that taxes will be cut enough to enable

a low-income family to afford their own health insurance? Remarkably, the President has even deluded himself into thinking that the enormous deficit his administration has accumulated, much of it through the war, can be cut in half by cutting superfluous Congressional spending but without hurting existing and developing programs.

To cap off the empty rhetoric regarding so many of his administrations actions and initiatives, the President starts to dance around the separation of church and state towards the end of the address. A plea to promote abstinence to reduce the number of teenagers who contract sexually transmitted diseases somehow morphs into a moral argument for promoting the sanctity of marriage, an obvious though not direct allusion to the issue of gay marriage. I, too, would like to see the institution of marriage treated with more gravity and respect, but I fail to see the necessity of this in a political speech. The difficult issue of gay union aside, how can anyone, much less the leader of a government without a state religion, denounce an entire group of people while condoning heterosexual unions that can be achieved in Las Vegas over the weekend on a whim and neatly erased by Monday morning, a la Britney Spears?

Empty promises, overblown language, unrealistic initiatives, and a nice Hollywood ending quoting a letter from a 10-year-old from our very own Rhode Island—the stuff politics are made of, right? The State of the Union Address has become another nearly meaningless political act. How sad that in an age when the government has become more accessible to the American public than ever before through mass media, it is so hollow and devoid of true substance.

Misadventures of John Kerry's past

BY LESLIE NEVOLA '06
COMMENTARY STAFF

A banner on the official web site of Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, candidate for the Democratic nomination for president to run in the

2004 election, proudly proclaims: **NATIONAL** "The courage to fight for America.

The courage to defend freedom and its defenders." What the site does not mention is the senator's true disdain for the idea of "fighting for America" and American ideals. While he would never admit it verbally, the proof of Kerry's disregard for and exploitation of American veterans and military men, as well as his willingness to twist the truth in order to advance his career, is evident in his deeds in the past and still today.

After his stint in Vietnam with the United States Navy, John Kerry came back to the U.S. ready to get involved in politics. So he did – by joining and becoming a major organizer for Vietnam Veterans Against the War, an extreme appeasement group with Communist ties that also attracted the likes of "Hanoi" Jane Fonda and Ramsey Clark. The group's actions were so anti-American military that while imprisoned in a POW camp in North Vietnam during the war, Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) was verbally taunted by his captors specifically about Kerry's actions back in the U.S.

While working as a VVAW

organizer, John Kerry supported the "People's Peace Treaty" – a declaration to end the Vietnam War drawn up in communist East Germany. The treaty called for the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Vietnam prior to the beginning of negotiations over the release of U.S. soldiers still imprisoned in POW camps overseas. The proposal's nine points were taken directly from Viet Cong proposals as conditions for ending the war, first presented at the earlier Paris peace talks. Had the U.S. adopted the treaty, America would have lost all leverage in attempting to get back Kerry's own fellow veterans – soldiers in the same situation as had been fellow Senator McCain. Is this what Kerry calls "the courage to fight for America" and "to defend freedom and its defenders?"

Perhaps these actions can be written off as post-war radicalism, and perhaps the country can be reconciled to the "new" John Kerry. But has he changed all that much? In 1991, John Kerry became one of the primary figures in the POW/MIA Senate Committee set up to investigate whether American POWs and soldiers considered "missing in action" were still alive in Vietnam. Kerry claims that he had "personally pressed Vietnamese officials to cooperate in ongoing efforts to get answers for families" and that he "pressed for unparalleled declassification of documents, increased excavation work in Vietnam, and gathering of testimony from 144 witnesses." What a

shockingly false statement! The truth, as the U.S. Veteran Dispatch asserts, is that "No one pushed harder to bury the POW/MIA issue, the last obstacle preventing normalization of relations with Hanoi, than John Forbes Kerry." In his desire to patch things up between the U.S. and his apparent friend, the Vietnamese government, Kerry actually suppressed the testimonies gathered by witnesses of U.S. servicemen in Vietnam. He also reclassified "120 boxes of potentially explosive National Security Agency files... before Senate investigators could study them," according to the *Washington Times*.

Instead, Kerry praised Hanoi for its "cooperation" in the search for information about the U.S. soldiers who remained unaccounted for in U.S. records. At a meeting in Hanoi with Vietnam's communist president Le Duc Anh, Kerry was videotaped promising the president that "we will not make public anything embarrassing to your government." Talk about sleeping with the enemy.

Yet despite all of this evidence to the contrary, John Kerry still states proudly that he is a veteran's man, who "served in our armed services out of a sense of duty to [my] country." And he is not beyond using the Vietnam Veterans Memorial as a photo op on Veterans Day. He is, in all senses of the word, a politician, and he uses pretty rhetoric in an attempt to obscure his past actions.

Tangents and Tirades

From politics to more frivolous topics, we always have something to talk about.

Unfair coverage of an unattractive reaction What disturbs me most about Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean's performance after losing the Iowa caucuses to Kerry and Edwards was not entirely the action itself, but its continual reenactment and overexaggeration by such venues as late night television. It concerns me that the media could in this way help to undermine Dean's campaign by capitalizing on his behavior that night. While I agree it was hardly calm, cool, and collected, one isolated instance such as that should hardly be the basis for dismissing the ideas and experience Dean could bring to the presidency.

— Stephanie Pietros '04

Thursday TV no longer Must See This may seem like an unimportant topic, but the new NBC Thursday night line-up is terrible. If you are a fan of *The Apprentice*, I apologize, but the fact that a reality show took the space of *Scrubs*, which is arguably one of the funniest shows on television, is a travesty. Thursday night is really the only night that I watch TV, and I look forward to my free hot chocolate and cheap donuts at PC Perk every week. Now one of the highlights of the night has been taken away so I can, instead, watch a group of young corporate wannabes use sex and deceit to gain a position with Donald Trump. No thank you. — Caitlin Ford '05

Have you seen my hat? This is an extremely important topic. Have you guys ever seen a hat before? If the hat you saw was made of yarn (army green and orange) and love (love) and it was outside of Cunningham dorm, then the hat you saw was my hat. You may remember this hat from places such as: my head, my back pocket, or my hand while transferring between the two. Sadly, I lost this hat and as you know it is cold, I'm talking hat cold. Over the break I was stripped of my winter coat by my mother, who called me "soft". This winter I will have to rely on my cunning to fend off the harsh winter months. So, if you have seen my hat, or more importantly if you have my hat, please call me at X3366 and let me know. I appreciate your concern. — Chris Ackley '06

Another voice for the right Since I didn't get to voice my opinion last week about my favorite candidate, here it is: I plan on voting for George W. Bush. I did try as hard as I could to like just one Democratic candidate, but I couldn't. There is nothing distinctively good about any of them. Dean is just plain crazy, Kerry has a pretty spotted past (see my article), Clark is too inexperienced, Sharpton is a joke, and Edwards... ok I admit I know nothing about him, but I am sure he is just a one-issue candidate like most of the others (that issue being the Iraq War, which all of them are against to some degree, except for maybe Kerry). Frankly, I agree with what Juliette Paul '05 wrote in her article last week — a president's true mettle is only proven when something of the magnitude of Sept. 11 occurs. And to me, Bush has demonstrated his courage and his ability to run the country with a deft hand even through hard times by beginning to save the U.S. economy he inherited from Clinton while freeing another entire country at the same time. Now that's what I call leadership. Besides, I would rather have a guy in office who knows what he's doing than a newcomer who doesn't. — Leslie Nevola '06

Feeling sorry for Lefty Pro-lifers "Baby lover!" My liberal roommate screamed at me across our apartment after I told her I was going on the March for Life in Washington D.C. with a group of roughly forty other PC students last week. Our joking (and somehow affectionate) insults continued as I proceeded to tell her that she and her pro-choice beliefs liked to "kiss death," and then she proceeded to tell me that me and my pro-life beliefs liked to "kiss fetuses." After we stopped laughing at our fun-loving debate, I thought about how serious the abortion debate has become for this generation of college students, since political parties polarize the issue. Anyone who participated in the March for Life could affirm that it seemed most of the marchers were young adults. On Jan 21, at the National Prayer Vigil for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, William Cardinal Keeler of Baltimore read a personal letter from President George W. Bush, commending pro-life advocates, especially young adults, for standing up for a great cause. (Don't think it a coincidence that I defended Bush's integrity before a firing squad of my liberal-leaning colleagues in last week's issue of *The Cowl*, which came out the night after the Vigil.) My point is that I truly feel badly for pro-life, Democratic voters (who, by the way, exist because Terrence Sweeney and myself saw marchers with "Pro-Life Democrat" signs). They are torn between politics and moral beliefs in the 2004 election, since the agendas of Bush and Democratic candidates are pretty cut and dry on the abortion issue. It is unfortunate that politically liberal Catholics should be put to such a disadvantage. — Juliette Paul '05



Michael Jackson in "It's A Wonderful Life."

by Dustin Kahoud '04

Letters to the Editor:

Politicians' punishment does not fit their crimes

I was disappointed that former Representative Bill Janklow (R) who dominated South Dakota politics for three decades as governor and then as congressman, was sentenced to 100 days in jail. He was found guilty of second-degree manslaughter, speeding and running a stop sign in a collision that killed Randy Scott, 55, at a rural intersection on August 16, 2003. He should have received a stiffer sentence.

In the interim former Providence Mayor Vincent "Buddy" Cianci is currently serving a 64-month incarceration sentence at Fort Dix, New Jersey for his felony conviction of "Racketeering Conspiracy" under the Federal RICO Laws. He is not eligible for release until July 2007. He was also fined 100,000 dollars.

The point to remember is that the "Prince of Providence," according to *Providence Journal* author Mike Stanton, and the other people involved in the "Plunder dome" scandal did not kill anyone. Their crime involved

money. Money is only paper compared to the value of a human life. Mr. Janklow will pay 11,400 dollars in fines. After 30 days behind bars, Mr. Janklow will be allowed to leave jail during the day for up to 10 hours to perform community service. Buddy cannot leave jail until 2007.

After he completes his jail term, Mr. Janklow will be on probation for three years, during which he will not be allowed to drive. I do not believe he should be allowed to ever drive again. Mr. Janklow is a menace to society behind the wheel of an automobile.

Mr. Cianci's conviction is being appealed to the first district court in Boston. We will have to await their decision of whether he was guilty of racketeering and conspiracy, and not guilty of over 25 other charges.

Watch your backs, as terrorism is still with us. Support our military and God bless America. Peace!

RUSSELL P. DEMOE '73

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All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, and a phone number where they can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length and only one will be published per week. *The Cowl* editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles and letters for space and clarity.

However, if there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, please inform the Editor-in-Chief. Letters to the Editor are the opinions of the writer only

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Notes from the underground

Rogue downloader Matt Hess points, clicks, and dismantles the idea that music industry lawsuits are going to stop file sharing

BY MATT HESS '05
A&E STAFF

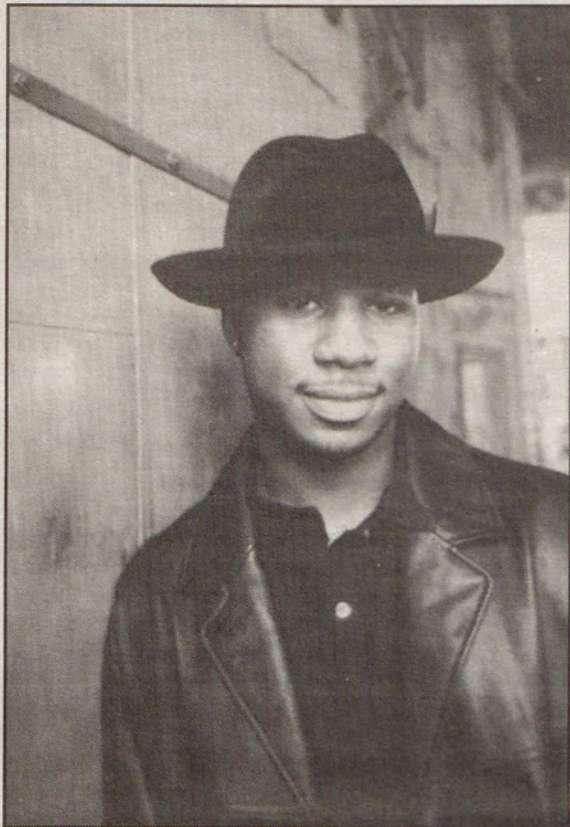
Apparently I've become a hardened criminal. According to the IFPI (The International Federation of Phonographic Industry), my computer has 1,221 illegally down-loaded music files on it, each of which could potentially merit a lawsuit. Perhaps I'm even one of the 532 anonymous downloaders that are currently being sued by the industry. On Thursday, the IFPI obtained the I.P. addresses of these shameless song-swappers and intends to get their names and locations soon though traditional subpoenas.

So maybe I'll get a nice little indictment for my 21st birthday—I didn't really want that digital camera anyway.

Maybe it's just me, but I think the music industry is slowly slipping into insanity. I simply don't understand what could possibly be solved by suing 500 people for sharing music. Why would these supposedly slumping companies even bother pursuing 500 costly trials? It just doesn't make sense! The fact is that practically every computer in America has downloaded music on it—even my mom has a few crappy Taylor Dane songs chilling on her hard drive. If you wanted to be consistent, you'd have to indict the entire country.

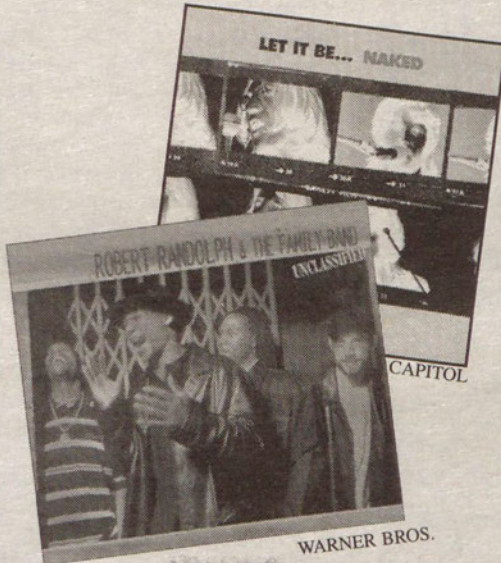
And what's worse, IFPI's actions have hardly been a successful deterrent. The population continues to download music everyday. (I'm downloading a little Hendrix as I'm typing this, and my roommate just finished "pirating" a Linkin Park song.)

To me, it seems like the industry's procedures have grown more and more desperate each year; record labels simply don't know how to handle the situation, so they revert to



WARNER BROS.

When love of music is outlawed, only outlaws will love music: Whether it's the music of Robert Randolph (above), The Beatles (above right), or Jimi Hendrix (right), if you're getting it online, you might get sued.



WARNER BROS.



MC

childish finger-pointing. What they don't seem to understand is that file sharing has simply become an evolution of the industry, and it should be treated as such.

Instead of slapping wrists, they should embrace the progressing nature of their trade. The music industry is one that relies on technology—and technology is something that will inevitably advance. When the radio was first introduced to consumers, the industry needed to adjust. Listeners weren't simply hauled away in handcuffs for tuning in to "free" songs on their sets. File sharing is something that the industry

must learn to accept, because it isn't going away.

Furthermore, the argument that downloading music significantly detracts from album sales isn't palpable. Indeed, there has been a three-year decline in music sales, but blaming file-sharing alone is laughable. For me at least, contemporary music just seems to be getting worse—there isn't much that I want to buy, personally. Just look at the slew of crap that came out during the Christmas season. The only CD that even sparked my interest was the remastered Beatles offering, *Let It Be...Naked*—and that disc didn't have any

material on it written after 1970. I don't know, maybe I'm just starting to grow cynical in my old age.

As someone who has become a seasoned music pirate, I find that (if anything) I'm more apt to purchase an album if I've downloaded a song or two from it and dig what I hear. It was through file sharing (and a little help from Joe Mavodones '05) that I first heard the bouncy jams of Robert Randolph and the Family Band. I bought his latest release, the phenomenal *Un-classified*, mainly because I loved the few tracks that I had on my computer.

I've always looked at it this way: file sharing is a quick and easy way to encounter new music, and the more music I'm exposed to, the more music I'm going to buy.

And honestly, there's simply something about holding a CD in your hand, glancing at the cover and then perusing through the liner notes that can't be replaced. A silver disc with the words "Stunt 101" scrawled across it with a sharpie marker (in your buddy's crappy handwriting, of course) is no substitute.

Although no one has nailed the problem on the head yet, some corporations are taking a step in the right direction. Online music stores (such as Apple Computer's iTunes, and Real Network's Rhapsody, which charge about a dollar per song) are not overly bad ideas. Although free file sharing isn't possible, the element of actually downloading music still remains. I'm not entirely at odds with IFPI's desire to change the way we share music, I just disagree with the legal steps they are currently taking—the lawsuits against song-swappers are simply unnecessary. As I said before, you would have to indict the country to be fair.

Believe me, I understand that the situation has become excessively complex, and actually reinventing the way business is done in the music industry is an astronomical task, to say the least. If I had all the answers, I assure you, I wouldn't be here right now. (I'd probably be in L.A., smoking a Cuban cigar, poolside with some beach bunnies.)

But until someone figures this whole mess out, I'll keep clicking the "Search Now" button on Ares, increasing my hoard of illegally downloaded contraband, which has just increased to 1,222. I might add—Hendrix's "Voodoo Chile" just finished downloading.

Hard drive essentials: an A&E Clip n' Save



Dispatch—"The General"

This is perhaps the biggest tune off of Dispatch's breezy disc, *Bang Bang*. Whether it's the glistening acoustic intro, sing-along chorus, or the cheesy, spirited lyrics, there's plenty to love here. While "The General" may not be the most serious tune penned by Dispatch, its melodies are some of their best.



O.A.R.—"Crazy Game of Poker"

As much as I hate this damn song, it's everywhere. Freshman year, my roommate must've played "Poker" about 700 times, and when he wasn't playing it, he was singing it—maybe that's why I can't stand it. Nevertheless, you'd be hard pressed to find a kid on the PC campus that can't sing the chorus.



Fat Joe feat. Ashanti—"What's Love"

Chances are, on any given night at Clubbies (before it became so classy, of course) this song was blasting at some point. Ah yes, the great memories are still there: girls dancing on the pool table, \$1 MGDs in everyone's hand, Kenny at the bar with his green sweater. Good times.



R. Kelly—"Ignition (Remix)"

Easily the best song ever produced by R. Kelly, the remix to "Ignition" has all the club anthem requirements: the words "Cristal" and "24's," goofy "toot-toot/beep-beep" sound effects, and cheesy (yet irresistible) innuendo. Kelly's beat grooves along as smoothly as a Caddy on this one.



John Mayer—"Why Georgia"

With lyrics just asking to be used in away messages, "Why Georgia" is perfect for that "What does it all mean?" mood. Indeed, the song's relaxed pace and meditative lyrics can be quite comforting, but it's the belief that this guy understands what you're going through that keeps you hitting repeat.



Outkast—"Hey Ya"

Admit it. As overplayed and obnoxious as "Hey Ya" is (there was even a God-awful remake of it for the Golden Globe Awards), you still do the "Alright, alright, alright..." and "Ice cold!" every time you hear it. Plus, Andre 3000's dance moves and haircut still boggle your mind. Madness.

Picks of the Week

BY HILLARY MURRAY '04
ADVERTISING MANAGER



Movie

Gothika
Directed by Mathieu Kassovitz

For those lovers of suspenseful, psychological thrillers, *Gothika* is one movie that you should definitely see. Halle Berry plays a psychiatrist who wakes up inside a cell at the very institution she has been working at because she has been charged with murdering her co-worker/husband, Charles Dutton. But now it's up to you to find out whether she killed her husband or not, and if she did, why? With great acting by Halle Berry along with Robert Downey Jr. and Penelope Cruz, this movie will keep you on the edge of your seat.



Music

Josh Groban
Closer
Warner Bros.

Josh Groban is a man that combines class, elegance, and talent all together. He's a younger version of Andrea Bocelli with a great voice that is beautifully soothing and relaxing, and a range that is unbelievably remarkable. I highly recommend his new album, *Closer*, for those who definitely have an appreciation for opera-style music or for those who just want to unwind and relax after a long, stressful week. His voice will erase your worries away and make you forget whatever was bothering you—at least during the time that you are listening to him.



Book

The Lovely Bones
By Alice Sebold

Because it was recommended by a Providence College alum and I hadn't read a book for pleasure in a while, I picked up *The Lovely Bones* this past winter break. The book is about a 14-year-old girl, Susie Salmon, who is raped and murdered, and the story's viewpoint is from Susie herself up in heaven. She tells the story of how life was before, what happened to her, and how life continued on earth with her family and friends after her murder. Sebold not only gives the reader an appreciation for life, but shows through Susie how your life can impact and change the lives of others when you are here and when you are gone.

Out of the mouths of babes

With Boy in Da Corner, 18 year-old rapper Dizze Rascal shows he's got a lot of growing up to do

BY DAN DEVINE '04
ASST. A&E EDITOR

Dizze Rascal
Boy in Da Corner
Matador Records

Everything's coming up roses for 18 year-old Dylan Mills these days. Young Mills, better known in Great Britain (and increasingly in the States as well) as the bombastic rapper Dizze Rascal, has seen his debut album *Boy in Da Corner* receive critical raves, not to mention the 2003 Mercury Music Prize for best British record of the year. After besting Radiohead, Coldplay, The Darkness, and a host of other nominees for the prestigious award, sales of *Boy in Da Corner* spiked, putting the record on pace to move over 300,000 copies. Critics everywhere are falling in love with Dizze's acerbic wit, his street-savvy delivery, and eclectic beats. Yes, Dizze Rascal is on top of the world.

That said, it'd probably take a bribe of about seventy-five large to even get me to consider listening to this album again.

Call me xenophobic, closed-minded, or ignorant if it suits you; it took a serious, *serious* force of will for me to finish listening to *Boy in Da Corner*. His vocal style is flat-out annoying, comprised of a series of heavily accented yelps, and the aforementioned "eclectic" beats jam video game bleeps, distorted ragga-style bass, and spaced-out dance club throbs into one big sonic blender.



MATADOR

Painted into a corner: Dizze Rascal (above) has gotten props on both sides of the Atlantic for his debut album *Boy in da Corner*, but not everyone is lining up to support him.

Though the intention is innovative, the effect doesn't amount to much more than a lot of high-speed squealing. Cacophonous production can work wonders when it's used purposefully, like when The Bomb Squad pounded skulls with aggressive backbeats to match the hard-rhyming style of Chuck D. on the early Public Enemy records, but I just don't get that sense of purpose when listening to *Boy in Da Corner*.

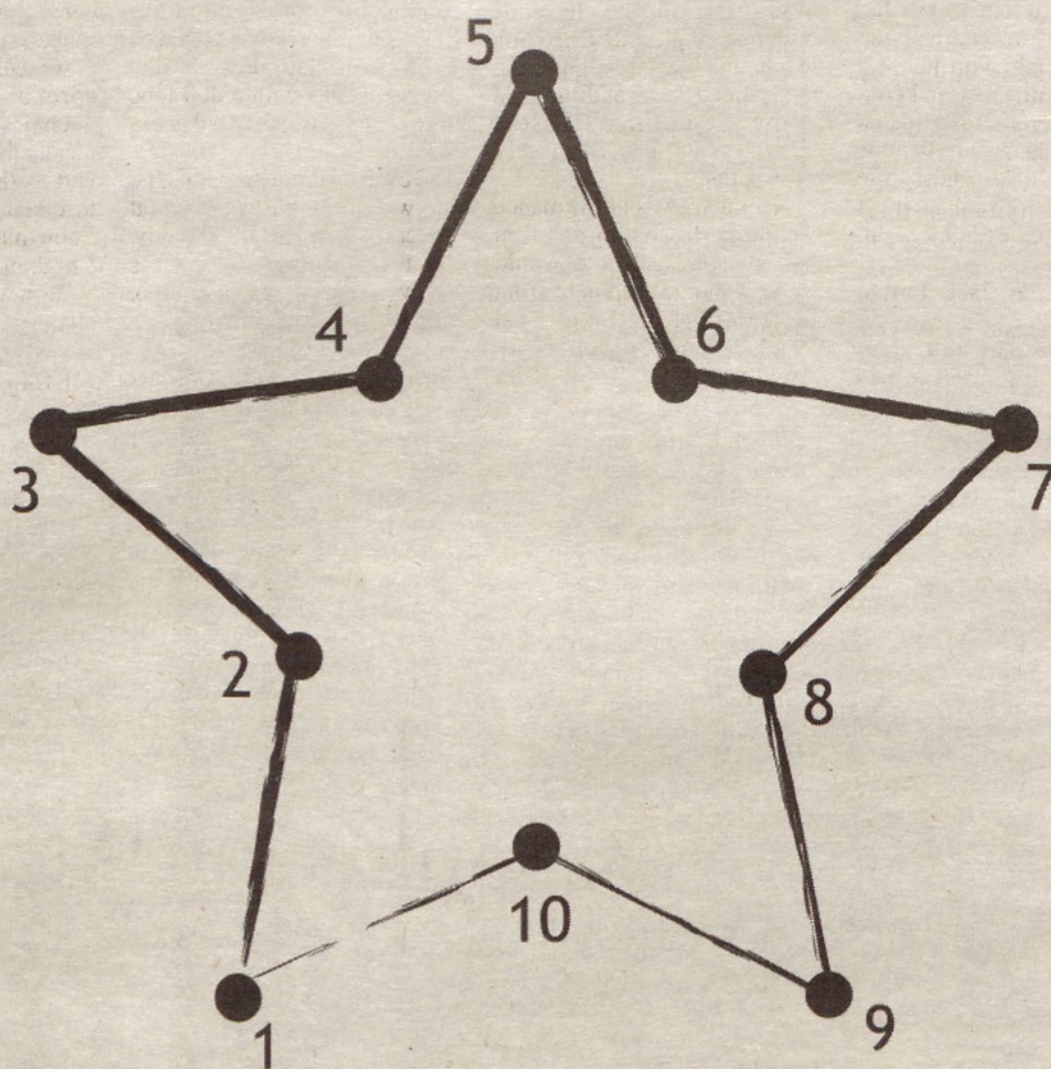
And maybe that's the biggest problem. Virtually everything I've heard or read touts Dizze as a socially significant truth spitter, focusing on his statements about teen pregnancy, the lures of street life, and the violence of East London. Critics drive home the point that

his references to "hoes," "jezebels," "blanks, skanks, and street robbery" are deeply ironic, sardonic, sarcastic, or possessed of a queasy humor that shines a spotlight on the faults of English estate society. You know what? I don't buy it.

If the message of a song like "Jezebel" is that London kids need to radically rethink their attitudes toward sexual responsibility, then Dizze needs to come with something more ironically substantive than "hoe can't keep her legs closed," lest folks like me start suspecting that what he's really saying is that teen pregnancy is a problem, but it's not the guy's problem, because

clearly teenage girls are insatiable, non-discriminating whores who sleep around habitually. And as to the issue of broadcasting the horrors of urban violence, Dizze is at best speaking out of both sides of his mouth; for every lament about how "eight millimeters settle debates," there's a boast about how he'll "leave gaps in your face." Far from a Tupac-style revelation about the dangers of the street life, what I heard on *Boy in Da Corner* sounded an awful lot like a punk 18 year-old kid's view of the world, pockmarked by a lack of maturity and perspective. Maybe he'll grow up on his next record, but I know I won't be waiting for a release date.

GRADE: D



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Worth its weight in gold

The dark and powerful 21 Grams has already garnered critical recognition, and now it has the chance to garner Oscars

BY STEPHANIE SMITH '06
ASST. A&E EDITOR

Characters in *21 Grams* repeatedly tell each other that "life goes on," but where is it going, exactly? According to the film, it's going straight to death. We all know that you can't escape death and *21 Grams* wants to make sure that none of us forget it. It is difficult to judge how "good" this film is because as deftly as it is directed and as talented as the actors are, some points of the film are painful to watch. It is not an enjoyable movie in the way that a comedy or even a good tearjerker would be. The movie's sadness does not illicit tears, but rather gives the audience that pit-of-your-stomach depressed feeling that stays for hours. *21 Grams* is not for the faint of heart, but the acting and directing are head and shoulders above anything else that has come out recently.

Christina (Naomi Watts) has just learned that her husband and two daughters were hit by a car and killed. The driver ran and no one was able to get a license plate number. Soon after, she signs a paper that allows her husband to be an organ donor. His heart is given to Paul (Sean Penn) who is so grateful that he tracks down Christina to express his gratitude, but instead ends up having an affair with her. All goes well until mid-makeout session—when he reveals that her deceased husband's heart is beating within *his* chest. She initially feels creepy about it but after sleeping on it for one night, she gets over it.

Meanwhile, Jack Jordan (Benicio del Toro), the man who ran over the dad and kids, decides to turn himself in. He



FOCUS FEATURES

Searching for a light at the end of the tunnel: In 21 Grams, Naomi Watts (above) plays a woman who loses her husband and children to a car crash and tries to regain normalcy, but things just keep getting weirder and weirder.

is an ex-con turned born-again Christian (whose church's pews are folding chairs) and he reasons that the whole 'being honest' plan will sit well with Jesus. He's in jail for awhile but soon gets out on lack of evidence. Paul and Christina decide that they should kill the newly freed Jack, and the film follows the three twisted characters as they inevitably cross paths.

Naomi Watts's performance is chilling. In any normal film that involves death, she would cry for a moment upon hearing the news that her family had been killed and then the scenes would move on. In this film

however, she instead breaks down for several minutes, with the camera only focusing on her. The audience can feel her mind-numbing pain and Watts makes us share her discomfort, continuously. The sorrow never lifts. She always has a glazed look of ultimate despair. She always speaks with a dull tone that makes us feel that even forming words is a struggle. And even when she is with Paul, and we are meant to think that she can overcome the tragedy, she still has a sense of emptiness that we cannot help but feel, too. Even now, days later, I can remember how empty she was.

Sean Penn's character, Paul

Rivers, is a little bit surreal. He has another man's heart in his chest and he walks with the sense of disconnectedness as a result. He acts as though he is in a dream: his actions have no consequences, his words don't make sense and he always has a weird, tripped out smile spread across his face. Technically, he was dead while the doctors put in the new heart, and as the movie reveals, you lose something when you die. Something was definitely lost; I'm thinking it's his mind.

Some people just look dirty all the time, no matter what they are wearing or doing. Benicio del Toro is one of these people

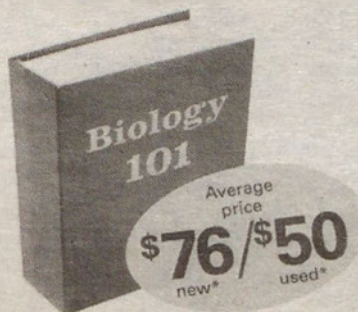
and maybe that is why he is so good at playing a scumbag. I look at him and I see dirt—both actual and metaphorical. His character is plagued by guilt; his squinty confusion stares blankly at the audience with nowhere to turn. Del Toro does well playing a desperate man and has mastered an attitude of hopelessness.

Alejandro González Iñárritu directs the film, without chronology at times, in a disconnected, hard to follow pattern that is characteristic of independent films. There are no scenes that give simple background information; rather the audience has to infer what happened and piece together who people are just from the action. The best parts of the direction, though, are the sets, which add tremendously to the mood. Christina's house looks like it could be on any block in any town. (In fact, the kitchen looked strangely like the one in my neighbor's house.) Moreover, from Jack's apartment, with its shabby furniture and clutter, to his folding chair church, to the sludge-caked motel that he stays in, everywhere he goes is dismal, much like his life. There is never that much light, either, in the movie. It's dark, things are unclear, it's a little scary and so is the story.

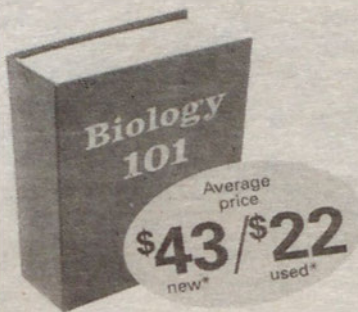
It's hard to say whether or not I liked *21 Grams*. I don't particularly like feeling depressed when I leave the theater, but at the same time, that was the film's goal and they achieved it with flying colors (although these colors are black and gray). The film is art; it expresses the powerful feeling of an event. It did not want to make me smile, and I respect it for being that brave.

GRADE: A-

Retail



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Kutcher turns serious; *Effect* does not

Everyone's favorite punk loses the trucker hat, but his efforts can't save *The Butterfly Effect* from its poor script

BY PAT EGAN '05
A&E STAFF

The Butterfly Effect is the worst kind of movie there is. Now don't get the wrong idea. The movie is by no means terrible. It's actually pretty clever at

MOVIE REVIEW

times. But I say that it's the worst type of movie because it's frustrating. It starts out with an interesting premise, and for a while, I really thought that this movie was going to be something special. It was suspenseful, exciting, and definitely kept my attention. But then all of a sudden, the movie took a turn for the worse. It went from suspenseful and exciting to tedious and just plain weird. And that's why *The Butterfly Effect* is so frustrating. It starts out strong, but never manages to take off. It hooks you in, but then lets you slip away.

The plot is complicated to say the least. It jumps back and forth between different times and alternate realities, but I'll do what I can here to simplify it a little bit. Ashton Kutcher grows a beard and loses the trucker hat to play Evan Treborn, a man haunted by something that happened to him as a child (I hate spoiling movies, so I'm not going to say what happened). Now an undergrad psychology major, Evan discovers a way to travel back in time in hopes of changing the past and improving the lives of both himself and the woman he loves, Kayleigh Miller (Amy Smart). Every time he travels back to change the past, however, he returns to the present to find that all has changed, and not always for the better. Evan learns that changing



NEW LINE CINEMA

Change one thing, change nothing: Although *The Butterfly Effect* claims that if you "change one thing, [you] change everything," the actions of Ashton Kutcher and Amy Smart (above) never really change anything, and the lack of resolution hurts the film.

even just one thing in the past can have unforeseen, and sometimes tragic, consequences.

In his first serious dramatic role since the beautifully written *Dude, Where's My Car?*, Ashton Kutcher actually does a pretty good job as the tortured Evan. The movie puts him in a series of shocking situations and he's believable in every single one. Believe it or not, Ashton can act. If nothing else, *The Butterfly Effect* proves that there is indeed life after *Punk'd* for Mr. Demi Moore. And even though the movie goes downhill about halfway through (I was kind of wondering dude, where's my script?), Ashton's performance remains solid throughout. The film is placed squarely on his shoulders and he carries it all on his own. He

proves to be equally effective whether he's playing Evan as an imprisoned murderer or as an Abercrombie-clad frat boy (these are just two of the situations in which Evan finds himself after messing with the events of the past). Even though I enjoy his work as a comedian (I thought he was hysterical in the recent *Cheaper by the Dozen* remake), I'm looking forward to seeing what he does in his next dramatic role. I think that with the right script, Ashton could actually become a respectable actor. No joke.

The supporting actors also do a good job in their respective roles. As Kayleigh Miller, the object of Evan's affection, Amy Smart turns in a fine performance. Even more so than Kutcher, Smart's character is placed in a series of tragic

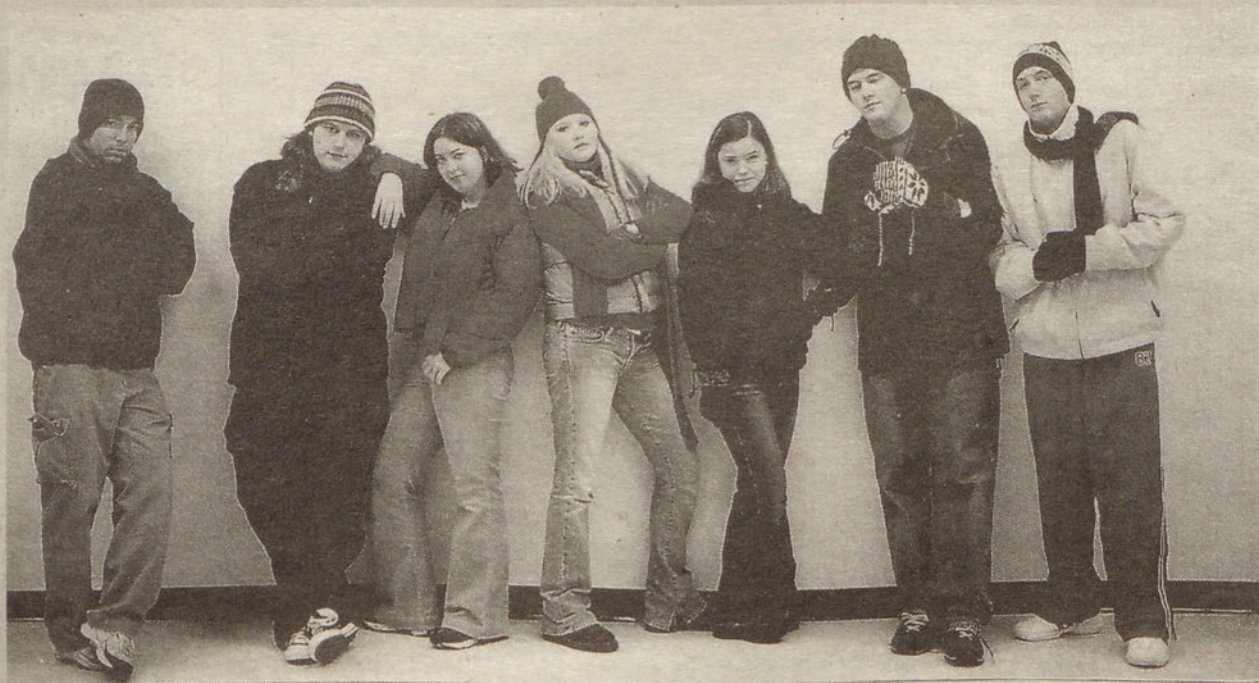
situations, the most shocking of which finds her living in a seedy motel turning tricks on anyone who's willing to throw her a few dollars. Her performance is surprisingly believable and you genuinely feel for her character, especially after seeing how happy she could have been if Evan just stopped playing with the past. Perhaps the best of the supporting cast, however, is 8-year old Cameron Crigger. The newcomer plays a childhood friend of Evan's who turns out to be just pure evil. Think Macaulay Culkin in *The Good Son*, but scary. Every scene this kid is in will keep you on the edge of your seat and your eyes glued to the screen. He's that good.

First-time directors Eric Bress and J. Mackye Gruber move the first half of the movie along briskly, but they fail to keep up the momentum. They start with an intriguing premise, but never really take it far enough. It would have been nice to see Evan get stuck in one of his alternate realities for a while and see what happens. Instead, every time things get bad for Evan, he just whisks himself away into yet another reality. When these escapes happen over and over, the movie starts to lose you. It starts getting boring. And again, that's why *The Butterfly Effect* is so frustrating.

So it seems that Ashton Kutcher can do more than just comedy. The guy has some serious dramatic potential. He just needs the right script and the right director to help him along. Hopefully, that will happen for him. Until then, we can still watch him punk people, and that's always a good time.

GRADE: C+

So cool... we have to wear jackets.



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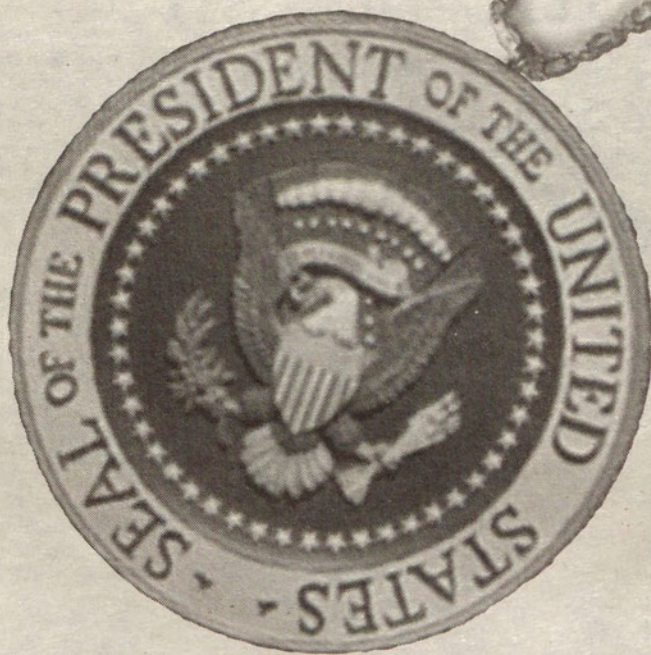
Urban Elements

The State of Hip-Hop Address

BY JOE MAVODONES '05
A&E STAFF

Remember *The Naked Gun*? The original one, *From the Files of Police Squad*? I hope so, because it's been on my mind a lot lately. I haven't seen it in about three years, yet recently, I've been thinking about it at least once a day. The reason? This might sound a little crazy, but it's because of President Bush. Crazy, right? Well, it's not because the President appears to be as dimwitted as Lt. Frank Drebin, or even that he may sometimes act like Nordberg. It's just that every time I hear Dubya speak nowadays, all I can picture is the final scene of the movie when Drebin tries to stop Reggie Jackson from killing the Queen of England. *Must kill the Queen! Must kill the Queen!* Classic comedy. Comedy that shouldn't make you think of the President of the United States, though. But with Bush searching the globe and taking out heads of state, I just keep imagining him as a brainwashed Reggie Jackson strutting across the world disposing of anyone who steps in his way. I mean, sure, we have to protect our country, but do we have to let George Bush do it? The other night's State of the Union address was just the tip of the iceberg for me. Bush's speech was basically the point in the movie when Drebin finally realizes that it's Jackson who is going to kill the Queen.

So, since I was so disillusioned with the President's scripted remarks and fruitless aspirations, I've decided to do it myself. That's right, my very own State of the Union about what I know best—hip-hop. Using the President's own themes from his speech, I'm applying them to the rap world and instituting the Providence College State of the Nation—hip-hop nation, that is. Here goes...



Hail to the chief: Joe Mavodones might not be the President of the United States, but he does have a four-point plan to make Hip-Hop Nation the superpower it deserves to be.

My fellow Friars,

Making America Safer with Decisive Action to Win the War on Terror

Translation: Hip-hop needs to take decisive action against MTV.

Over the past few years, the rap world has deteriorated faster than Britney Spears' marriage, and the main reason is the devilish forces at MTV. During the late 90's, MTV decided to murder pop music, and now, they have assaulted hip-hop. By exposing a handful of artists—Chingy, Lil' Jon, Nick Cannon, etc.—to the public, MTV has succeeded in overexposing only one style of rap music to the public. I can't even call it rap music, can I? I mean, I don't mind a 50 Cent video once and a while, but one every hour? That's a little much. By doing so, MTV has established the status quo of what hip-hop should sound and look like, when, in actuality, hip-hop

should be working from the ground up. Not from the top down. I've heard a lot of people complain, saying that MTV doesn't even show videos anymore, and that all they ever show is *The Real World* and *Newlyweds*. I say, who cares. Let them air these shows. Just leave the real music for MTV2.

Keeping America on Track for a More Prosperous Future

Translation: Take note of up-and-coming stars of hip-hop.

Since MTV only shows America about 2% of what hip-hop has to offer, we all need to start realizing that there is more out there. A whole lot more. Hip-hop fans need to embrace those artists who actually have skill, and not just money. You like G-Unit? Why not listen to Immortal Technique? Like Jin? Why not listen to Vast Aire? Like Chingy? Well, I don't know what to tell you, other

than I'm sorry and please don't talk to me. Ever.

Strengthening Health Care for Millions of Americans

Translation: I'm sick of throwback jerseys.

And by sick, I mean you should punch yourself in the face if you still have the desire to buy a throwback jersey. It's not that I don't like them, because I think the jerseys are all pretty tight. It's just gotten to the point where everybody is wearing one everywhere, with no respect for the jersey. I mean, half the people who buy them are only buying them because it's cool to have one. They have no idea about who the player was, let alone the time in which he played. I guess my point is this: would kids from Boston be wearing throwback Lakers jerseys if it were 1986? I didn't think so. Yet today, kids are doing just that.

Building a Better and More Compassionate America for All

Translation: Preserve REAL hip-hop.

What it all amounts to is that hip-hop seems to be lacking any sense of originality and authenticity these days. Artists don't strive to be praised for their skill; lately, the only goal of most artists is to grab the almighty dollar. Just the other day, I bought some random mix CD, full of obscure hip-hop singles from 1988. The beats weren't crisp. The rhymes weren't mind blowing. And the cover art work wasn't even that good. But it was still better than most of the rap albums sitting on top of the Billboard charts for one important reason: the songs were real.

Finally, I hope I didn't bring back any unwanted memories of *The Naked Gun*. I guess we can allow our President to act like a movie character, but let's not let hip-hop artists do the same.

Taste of the Town

with Kelly Mack '04
A&E Editor

Castle Cinema Café
1039 Chalkstone Ave., Providence
(401) 751-FILM

Ahh, dinner and a movie...the perfect date. The Castle Cinema Café has combined with Crazy Burger Too to bring you both at once—the perfect date in half the time, right? And you don't even have to talk to each other! While the dinner-and-a-movie combination might sound like a great idea on the surface, it does have its drawbacks in practice. Your experience will likely depend on which you really prefer—the dinner or the movie.

Atmosphere: Upon walking into Castle Cinema Café, you feel as though you're in a regular movie theater—popcorn popping, a ticket counter to your right, and movie posters lining the walls. Then you notice a small table for two outside of a theater, and you realize tables like it dot the hallway leading to a room that looks just like a small restaurant. The hints at a sit-down dinner follow you into the theater, where your seats are pulled from Lincoln Town Cars (yes, cars) and arranged around long tables facing the screen. It's a very comfortable set-up for movie-going, but be prepared to sit at the tables next to people you don't know, which might throw a kink into the dinner-going.



Selection: The menu offers everything from appetizers to light meals (like sandwiches) to full entrees and dessert. The nachos are good, piled high on a plate with refried beans, nacho cheese, guacamole, ground beef, and lettuce with salsa and sour cream on the side. They are very tasty, the different flavors combining but not competing with each other. They're also not too spicy, but the salsa will add that if you prefer it. The sandwiches come with a side, and one of the choices is sweet-potato fries (which, in general, are a highly underrated choice). They are denser than your average french fry, and they add a surprising complement to Castle's southwestern wrap. For entrees, the selection is similar to that of any Italian café/restaurant. The Absolut Tortellini,

al dente cheese tortellini in a vodka sauce, is good, but it doesn't stand out from any other similar dish.

Quality: Here is where the experience gets questionable. The food is good, high-quality, and served in large portions, but the movie factors into the dining experience. For example: you're watching *21 Grams*, and the main character just discovers the man she is dating has her late husband's heart in his chest. She has a pretty major breakdown, and all of a sudden, your appetite is a vague memory. Combining a movie and dinner means bonus points for the movie experience, because you have a wider selection of snacks and food. Unfortunately, it means minus points for dinner if your movie is particularly

moving or disturbing.

Service: The waitstaff is pleasant and attentive, and are obviously used to working around movie viewers. They seem unconcerned with whispering and dodging in and out of tables, but I have to say that I felt awkward ordering—I was afraid of disturbing the other people at my table. There is a certain amount of understanding at such a unique theater, though, and ultimately the serving process isn't too distracting.

Affordability: Prices are reasonable, at under \$10.00 for appetizers, around \$7.00 or \$8.00 for sandwich dishes, and \$11.00 to \$15.00 for entrees. The dishes are large enough to share if you wanted to, and keep in mind that you do have two hours to eat your dinner. On top of the dinner prices, don't forget the movie tickets—inexpensive at \$6.95 for evening shows. All in all, dinner and a movie at Castle would likely cost less than a separate dinner and movie.

Overall: Castle Cinema Café provides an interesting experience I would recommend to everyone. It has its quirks, but it's worth a try—just keep in mind that while the movie heats up, your food may get cold.

GRADE: B

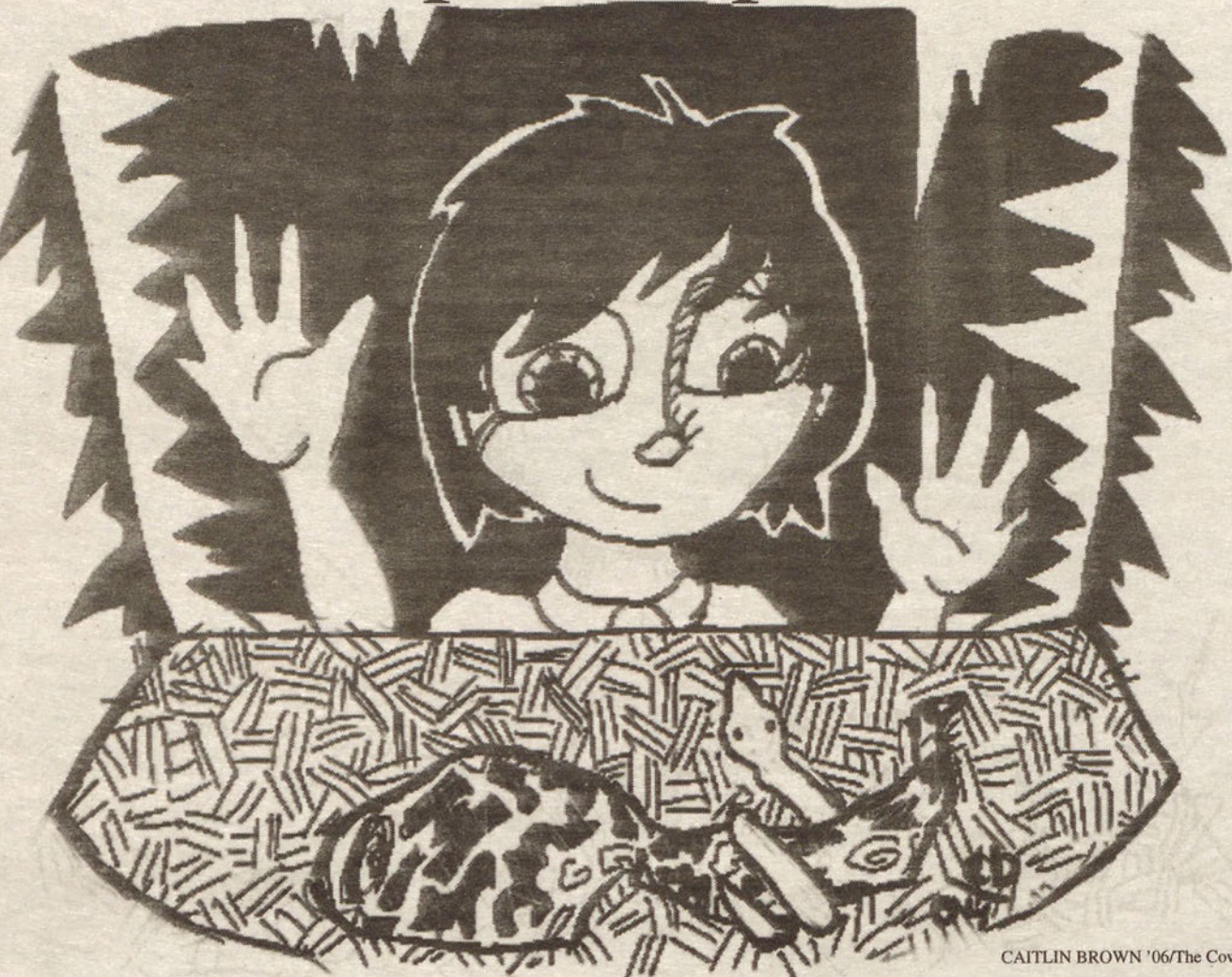
Darla and the little pet shop of horrors

(Christine) Darla skipped up the aisles at Pete's Popular Pet Paradise. Finally, her 10th birthday had come. She had hit the double digits. After Darla had nagged her mother to **PASS-AROUND** buy her a small alligator and penguin, she had agreed to let Darla pick out one small creature—specifically, one that could be contained in a cage. It was about time her daughter learned some responsibility, like how to take care of a pet. Darla had made lists and lists of every possible little animal after school last week, but she still couldn't decide on her dream pet.

Her six-year-old brother had pestered her all week to buy a hamster that he could train to run around in a wheel and climb through tunnels. Darla's younger sister had insisted that she buy a colorful parrot that they could teach to talk. Darla, using her big sister powers, waved off the requests of her siblings. Her new pet was going to be all for herself.

(Chris F.) Occurring this year on Friday the 13th, Darla's October birthday became subject to much ridicule in her school. Her friends had been listening to her brag all week about this dream pet her mother was going to be getting her. They had had just about enough of her "pretty new pet." The relentless youngsters began telling her that no matter what pet she got, it would eat her brother and sister or turn her into a cockroach. Her classmate Richard Bernard said that whatever pet Darla got, it would mutate into such a horrible sight that she would melt into a black and orange puddle of goo. Her persistent desire for this pet kept her going no matter what. She didn't care about her "cursed birthday" or the outrageous rumor that she was really a witch who wanted more "little pretties" to throw into her baby animal birthday stew.

That weekend her parents comforted her and told her that everything was going to be okay. They came to a consensus to get her any pet she wanted that Sunday. That way she wouldn't receive the creature on her tainted Friday and everything would be kosher. "What



CAITLIN BROWN '06/The Cowl

the heck is kosher?" Darla thought. She started to think that her friends and parents were involved in some sort of elaborate "kosher collaboration" to get her eaten on her birthday weekend by some cute little beast.

(Katie H.) Sunday came and Darla and her parents went to the pet store. She wondered what pet she should get—a hamster, a chinchilla, a goldfish, a ferret? Oh, the possibilities. Darla pressed her little nose against the parakeet cage. "Hello," a voice came from the cage. A parakeet that already knows how to talk! What could be better? As Darla began to respond, the blue and white parakeet met her gaze and pecked at her nose.

"OW! Ooooh! That was soooo not cool parakeet."

Maybe a parakeet was out of the question. Her father did have an allergy to feathers. That's when she saw it: the perfect pet!

(Chris P.) "Mom!" yelled Darla. "That's what I want! Isn't it cute?"

"You want a pot-bellied pig? But, Darla, darling, it's so...so..."

"Cute!" Darla interrupted. "I know! Look at his little tummy! I bet he's a lot of fun!"

"I don't know, Darla. I don't know the first thing about taking care of pot-bellied pigs."

Overhearing this, an employee came

over to Darla and her mother and introduced himself. "Hi, my name is Russ. Is there anything I can help you with today?"

"Yes!" screeched Darla. "I want this pot-bellied pig!"

"Ah, so you want to bring home the bacon, eh?" Russ laughed, until he saw a look of horror on Darla's face and a look of disgust on her mother's. "Uh, sorry, I'm practicing to be a stand-up comic..."

Darla's mother, regaining her composure, turned to Russ and asked, "How does one care for a pot-bellied

DARLA/Page 15

Three small words was all that it took

BY CHRISTINE BAGLEY '06
ASST. PORTFOLIO EDITOR

It was a lazy afternoon in November. Some channel featured the Wake Forest vs. UConn football game. She sat at the computer talking to a few people while her friend braided her hair. **SHORT STORY** No one was in a rush to start the evening. They were not expecting any company or any phone calls. They had been planning this reunion for weeks and the days leading up to the visit had been spent in anticipation. Neither spoke a word to each other, even though they had not seen each other for months. Somehow, the power of their friendship did not need words. Best friends forever, they had sworn—but more like each other's other half.

Her auburn hair was two symmetrical pigtail braids, cute as a cowgirl. She turned to the mirror and fixed a loose piece. Perfect. They looked at the clock on the wall: 4:15 p.m. She turned to her friend and grabbed the curling iron, ready to turn her friend's straight locks into golden curls. They unplugged the microwave cord and inserted the curling iron into the socket. The brunette glanced at the score of the football game, fetched the hairspray from a high shelf, and switched into the role as hairdresser.



KRISTIN ELLIS '05/The Cowl

Blonde coil after coil grew on her friend's head. Each curl was given the same amount of spray as the next. Soon the room filled with the scent of herbal hairspray. Almost an hour later, the strands of blonde had been turned into ringlets of gold. Both girls admired their new hair styles.

The phone rang. Exchanging momentary looks, the blonde reached for the receiver. Who would be calling the room, she wondered? Waiting for some expression from her blonde friend (upon recognizing the voice), the brunette focused back on the football game.

"Hi Mom, umm how are you? Umm, I'm okay...I'm watching the football game... I'm fine, I guess." Her eyes caught her brown-haired friend's eyes.

"The brunette handed the phone back to her friend. Still, neither of them spoke a word to each other. Why did she have more to say to her friend's mom than her friend did?"

The blonde's eyes looked distant, while her friend's eyes seemed familiar. Goldilocks turned away from her friend and hovered over the phone.

A few more whispered words were exchanged with her mother and conversation was slow. Minutes later, she emerged from her cowering position and tossed the receiver to her best friend, "She wants to talk to you."

"Hi, how are you and the family? I'm great, thanks! School is great. Yeah, just visiting for the weekend. I took the bus last night and got here about 8 p.m. We're just doing each other's hair. How are things back home? My parents—they are fine, thanks. Well, I'll see you all on Thanksgiving weekend. Sure, will do. Bye!" The brunette handed the phone back to her friend. Still, neither of them spoke a word to each other. Why did she have more to say to her friend's mom than her friend did? Shrugging,

she refocused her thoughts back to the television screen.

"Ok, Mom. I will. We will, thanks. See you soon. Umm...love you too."

Hanging up the telephone, the fair-haired girl turned to face her friend, a smile planted on her face; a sudden glow and energy in her eyes. Meeting her friend's eyes, the brown-haired girl reexamined her friend's expression. Why did her friend look different after talking to her mom after the second time? The girls finally spoke.

"Are you okay? What happened? What did she just say to you?" questioned the brunette. Pushing herself up from the mattress, she embraced her teary-eyed blonde confidant.

"She said she loved me. She's never said that to me before," she whispered from behind tears.

Hugging her best friend a little tighter, the brunette shared the tears. How could her mother never say she loved her? How awful. Thinking how many times a day her own mother told her those three special words—somehow they brought on a new meaning at that moment. The girls held close for a few moments more.

"Of course she loves you. Promise you will call home more and tell her that each time you talk to her?" she begged. "I promise."

Poetry Corner

Haiku on Beauty

BY CHRISTOPHER PARCELS '05
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Beauty is common—
Surface of a shallow pool,
Reflecting nothing.

Character is rare—
It is neither genetic
Nor bought from a store.

I prefer spirit
And humor and compassion—
These show the true self.

A new seduction—
That of mind and not body;
Of depth, not surface.

Learning from a Temptress

BY CHRIS FAHEY '05
PORTFOLIO STAFF

The head games go uninterrupted,
The perfumes are soaking my brain dry.
I shake at the thought of doing that which
My heart knows is a lie.
But being warned both for and against, I
Still gear myself to sensual recompense.

I gently stayed within my bounds,
Wishing only for peace under her guidance.
The very hint of her gentle sounds
Rendered me nervously looking for alliance.
Late night searching for faces of honesty
Has left me rhyming without much modesty.

Once I laugh myself into a corner,
I know only her smile.
I am an allowance unto myself,
Yet I fake happiness for a mile.
I ventured what was surely well-known, but
I felt powerful all on my own.

The Tapestry

BY SARA SCHEPIS '04
PORTFOLIO STAFF

*How entwined the threads, the lives of quick men!
And, bless their souls and memories, the dead.*

See the tapestry long moldering on the marble wall
A wood, and distant isles.
See the horn at the lips of the green man
Blow silent through the age.
Following the echo out into the West
The ranks of hills far and misted,
That held a jewel unlooked for
And a parting untimely.
See in the faded weave, a figure against the dawn
A man unknown,
Yet no soul touches earth but leaves its touch—
A dream, a word, a deed,
O sacred symphony within our hour.

Profile

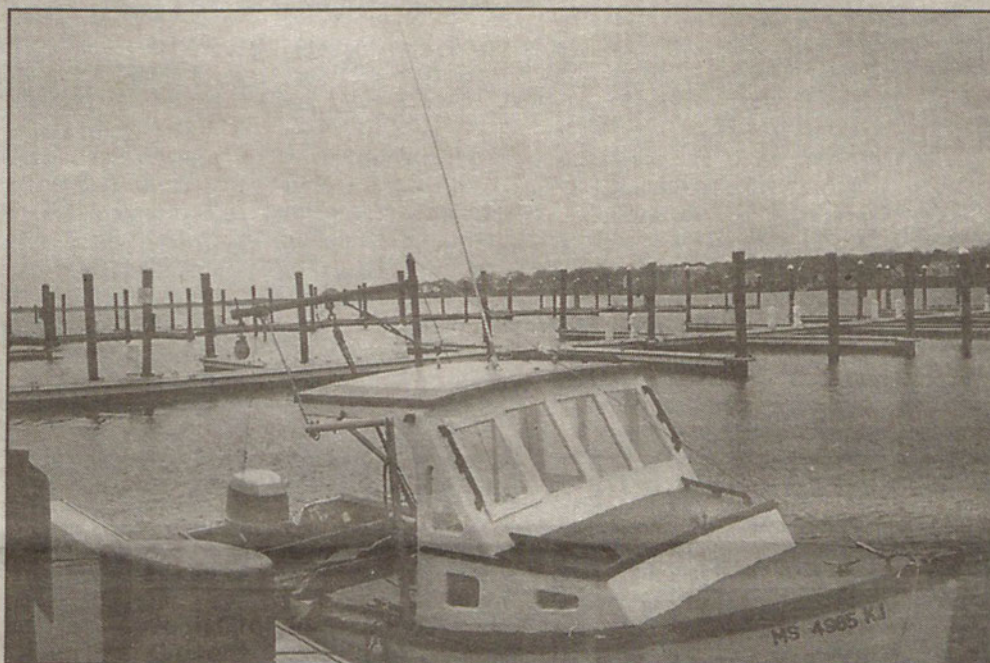
BY JOAN BARKER '04
MANAGING EDITOR

There is a man inside my wall
With hazel eyes and wilted hair
The shade of his skin: pale and fair
He's perfect for this casting call.

Hazel eyes and a simple grin
He tilts his look to study me
His image, though, I cannot see
Quite as much as the paint he's in.

Not to pry, a hint of consent
I've done him wrong in just a kiss
He knows my life has come to this
Mister, why you seem so content...

The light has picked a place to fall
Upon a face that reads me through
A mister that I never knew
There is a man inside my wall.



JENNIFER SKALA '05/The Cowl

Darla: A freaky Friday the 13th birthday pet

continued from page 14

pig? Is there anything special I should know?"

(Megan) "Well, um..." Russ began looking nervous. "Could you just hold on one moment?" he asked, backing away from the mother and daughter. He spun around and walked swiftly into the back storeroom.

"Well that was odd, don't you think Dar..." But before her mother could finish the sentence, Darla had found her way into the back of the store. Her hands were pressed up against a small glass

box. An eerie smile crept across her face. Her mother walked slowly up the aisle, the exact form of the pet, still blurry from a distance. Her high-heeled shoes clicked loudly as she walked towards Darla. "What is it now?" she asked. But she did not need a response. There, behind the glass was what appeared to be a miniature snake. Shivers ran down her spine; she despised snakes.

Seemingly appearing from nowhere, a different store attendant placed his hand into the cage and lifted the tiny snake.

"Just got this one in on the 13th.

Beauty, isn't she?"

Darla stood her mouth agape, "I love it!" she shouted.

(Jen) "Absolutely not, Darla Jean Cannon!" Darla's mom scolded. "There is no way I was bringing a snake home, let alone a cursed snake that mysteriously appeared on Friday the 13th!"

"But Mom, my birthday is Friday the 13th," Darla mumbled as she started to cry. "Am I cursed too?"

"No, honey. I'm sorry I said that, there's nothing wrong with the 13th. I just don't like snakes."

Darla looked up at her mother with

big puppy dog eyes and a quivering lower lip. She was crying hysterically at this point and other people in the store were beginning to stare.

"Shush, I'm sorry. You can get any pet you want!" Darla's mom said in a panicked attempt to get her to settle down. She did not even realize what the implications of her statement would be; she just wanted to get Darla to stop crying.

"Really?" asked Darla with a somewhat mischievous look on her face. "Well in that case, I'll take the snake and the pig..."

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We are those “small dog people”

BY JENNIFER SKALA '05
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

We have turned into something I never could have imagined.

My family has always had dogs, but big dogs; dogs that required thick leashes and a strong hand at the end of those leashes, dogs that can eat their bowlful of food in two minutes, dogs that take up the whole backseat when they ride in the car.

We have never been the people that owned a dog the size of a mailbox; people who carry around their pet—not because the animal can't walk for itself—but because its tiny size makes it possible to do so, people that have their dog sit on their lap in the car. We have never been those people...but we have become them.

We have become “small dog people.” “If you're going to get a dog, get a dog!” is something I have said on more than one occasion. I thought of small dogs as cute, but not something I would want for myself. All of that changed this November when my family became the owners of a small dog. We brought Dolly (16 lbs.) home to our other dog, Ginger (65 lbs.). We weren't in the market for a small dog, but Dolly's active nature made her a better pet for us than my grandfather, her former owner.

Having a little dog around the house was an adjustment. After having Ginger as our primary pet for the past 10 years, we were used to hearing her clomp up and down the hallway. If her claws on the wooden floor weren't enough of a



Photo courtesy of the Skala family

Yes, that dog is wearing a sweater: Ginger and her tiny counterpart, Dolly

sound to signal her presence, her panting was. Things are different with Dolly—she seems to just appear in a room; her tiny feet do not make nearly as much noise as Ginger's. And we are more likely to wake up to her licking our faces or sniffing us than being awakened by any noise she would make entering the room.

Dolly's lack of noise is also a problem when she follows one of us around. There is no way we would not be aware of Ginger's presence behind us, but Dolly can creep up without us knowing until we accidentally step on her. To prevent any of these accidents, we have all taken to carrying her around the house. Yes, I know that this is really lame and it is difficult for me to admit

that we actually carry our dog around the house like a baby, but her size compels us to do so. I was against it at the start, but by the end of Christmas break, I too, was parading around our home with Dolly under my arm.

One interesting problem we have encountered with Dolly and had never experienced with Ginger is that of losing Dolly inside our house. Ginger is unable to squeeze into spaces narrower than two feet wide, but Dolly manages to fit behind our couches and easy chair. On more than one occasion, we have had to search the house to see what Dolly had squiggled behind. Try as she might (especially when she is trying to hide from Dolly), there are virtually no places Ginger could go unnoticed.

The strange thing with our small dog is the fact that she thinks she is a massive and ferocious dog. She is always trying to steal Ginger's toys, despite the fact that Ginger is about six times the size of her. She also takes cookies and rawhide treats from Ginger before she is done with them. Dolly acts like she has a big appetite when, in reality, it takes her at least 10 minutes to finish a single Milkbone. Dolly will bark at dogs Ginger would avoid at all costs and she thinks she will actually scare visitors with her growl (which sounds a lot like a cat's purr).

The addition of Dolly has made us even bigger saps than we were before. It is almost embarrassing to admit how much entertainment we get from watching her play with her toys, or run in a circle, or do virtually anything. We obviously think she is the best small dog there is and I find myself telling my friends about the new cute thing she had learned to do now (Shudder! What have I become?). And yes, we do still love Ginger and we give her probably more attention than we did before, so she won't feel jealous of her new sidekick.

So there you have it, the Skalas have become a “small dog” family in a major way. We carry our pet around, even though she is perfectly capable of walking, we take her outside on a leash as thin as a piece of yarn, and we even got a sweater for her when it gets too cold outside. Yes, I did just say that I own a dog who wears a sweater—something I never thought I would say, but now find perfectly acceptable.

Why backup plans can break backs

BY KATIE HUGHES '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

(The following scenario takes place inside a group therapy session.)

Me: Hi! My name is Katie, and I'm a Theatre major.

Them: Hi Katieeee! Theatre major? I'm sorry. Is that like a real major? What are you going to do with that—join the circus? What's your other major? Do you have a backup plan? Good luck with that! So what—you want to be famous or something?

In his book *True and False*, author, director, and playwright, David Mamet writes: “Those with ‘something to fall back on’ invariably fall back on it. They intended to all along. That is why they provided themselves with it.” Under some circumstances, I can understand the concept of a “backup plan”—say, in an airplane. If something goes wrong with the pilot, there's always the co-pilot to take over. Or if you go to the convenience store and they don't have Funions chips, a backup plan could possibly be to buy some sour cream and onion Pringles instead. But when it comes to planning the future, why should I have a backup plan?

My dad is worried that I won't have health benefits as a “woman in the arts” (that's his euphemism for “penniless actor.”) My mom is worried that it'll be a real struggle and my spirits might get broken (and therapy costs a lot of money.) My grandma says, “Don't you want to be an accountant?” (Yes, because I can barely remember my multiplication tables under pressure.) My family does support me; they know that I'm a stubborn person who is not going to give up without a fight. Yet, I know they are worried.

One of my dreams is to be a late night talk show host. (It's okay, you can laugh; I laugh at me too sometimes.) And if I allow myself to have a backup plan, I know I won't achieve my dreams—

instead I'll just settle for something else. But I won't settle. I'm not the “settling” type.

Now, some people might be saying, “Yeah but Kate, it's a dream. Dreams are not always possible.” Well, then I tell those people to look around them and see what has been achieved by dreaming. Light bulbs were dreams. Indoor plumbing was a dream. The Louis Vuitton leather bag collection was first a dream (which perhaps turned into a nightmare).

Regardless, I think you get my point. If people don't dream, things don't get done. Not having a backup plan makes me work 10 times harder when doing what I love. I've always known that whatever I did in life for my livelihood would be something that I enjoyed.

Call me delusional, but I want to enjoy my career. Which is why it kills me when people think that I picked an “easy major.” The workload is different. Just because you don't see me doing what you think is “work” doesn't mean I'm not doing it. I spend five hours a day at rehearsals in addition to my classes and work-study job (which happens to be in the Theatre Production Office). And I love it! I wouldn't trade these experiences for anything in the world. I'm just like you. Thanks to this school's core curriculum, I still take “regular” classes too.

Mamet continues in his book, “One could say, ‘I am a fool, for I have not provided myself with an alternative;’ one could also say, ‘I see nothing else worth my time,’ which is, I think a rather strengthening attitude. The cops say, ‘I'm on the corner.’ Young folks in the theatre might have it, ‘Molly can go home and John can go home, I am never going home.’ Bravo. And good luck. Those of you with nothing to fall back on, you will find, are home.”

It's cliché but maybe it's true that “home is where the heart is.” Well, my heart is on the stage, and it sure does feel like home to me.

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By Ann-Marie
MacDonald

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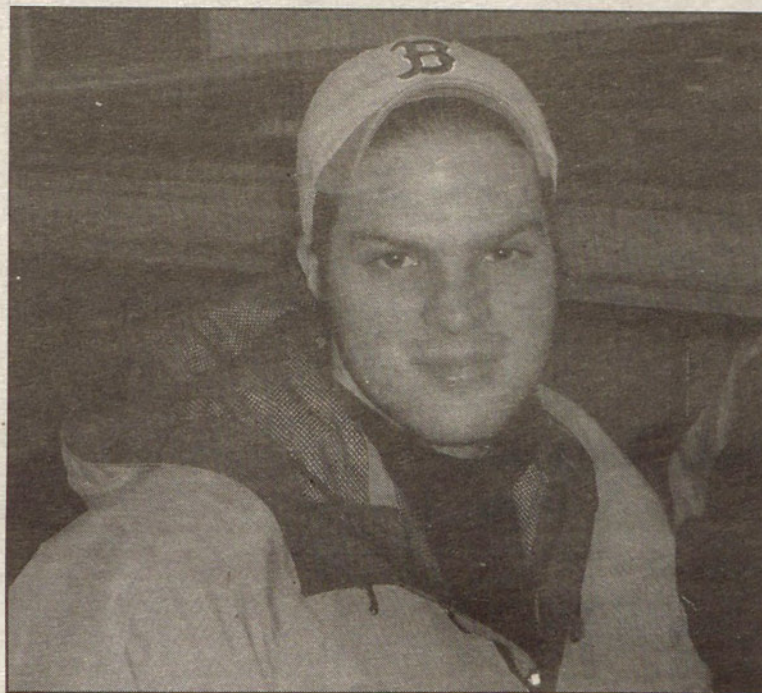
STA TRAVEL
WE'VE BEEN THERE.

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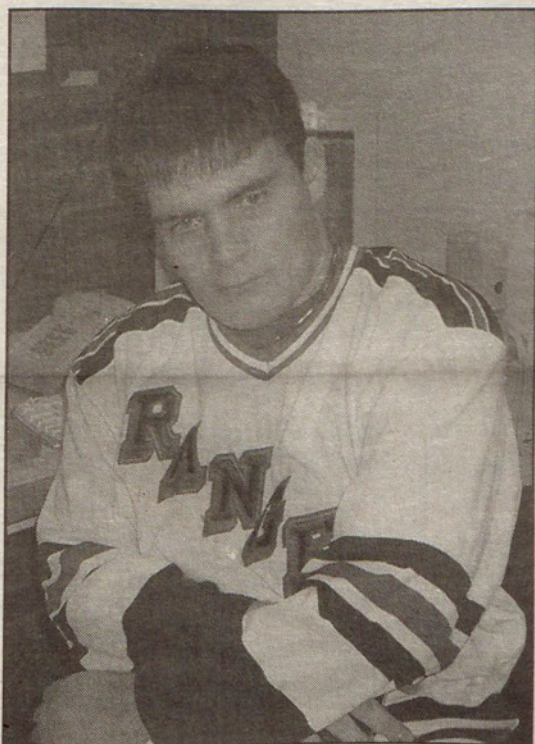
How are you celebrating Superbowl Sunday?



"The Superbowl is this Sunday?"
Cari Haines '04



"Getting drunk and passing out."
Luigi Gollis '05



"Pounding a beer for every touchdown scored."
Kyle Hill '06



"Going to the Foxy's 'Superbowl Bash.'"
Josh Tobias '04 Chris Cuffe '04



"Go Yankees!"
Kristen Rotella '06 Lisa Catalano '06
Katie Gralton '06



"Crying."
The New York Giants



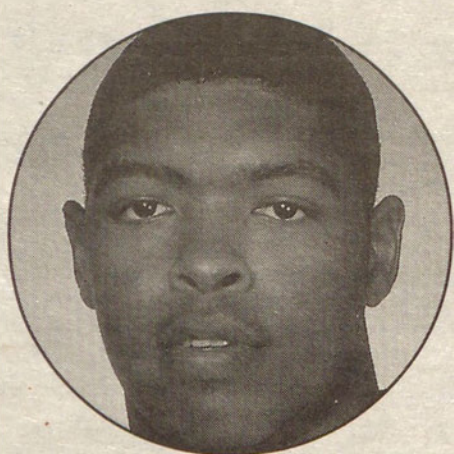
Blossom and Six
"Queer Eye for the Straight Guy
Marathon on NBC!
Finally, television understands what
the rest of America wants to watch."



The PC Scoreboard

Scores • Standings • Statistics • Schedules • Standouts

Standouts



Ryan Gomes
Men's Basketball
Junior — Waterbury, Conn.

Gomes led Providence to a 3-0 record last week, including victories over Villanova and Connecticut, averaging 19.7 points and 10.7 rebounds per game. Gomes scored 27 points and snatched eight rebounds against Villanova and recorded 26 points and 12 rebounds versus the fourth-ranked Huskies.



Kelli Halcisak
Women's Hockey
Senior — Grosse Ile, Mich.

Halcisak recorded three goals and an assist in PC's 8-6 loss to Nationally ranked No. 2 Dartmouth at Schneider Arena on January 21. Halcisak scored a shorthanded, even strength and power play goal. With her four points against Dartmouth, Halcisak owns a team-high 22 points on the season.

Scores

<i>Wednesday 1/21</i>				
Women's Hockey vs. Dartmouth			L 8-6	
Men's Basketball vs. Villanova			W 62-56	
<i>Friday 1/23</i>				
Men's Hockey at Lake Superior State			W 3-0	
<i>Saturday 1/24</i>				
Men's Basketball at Connecticut			W 66-56	
Swimming and Diving at UMass Dartmouth			Men 167.5-79.5	
			Women 176-122	
Men's Hockey at Lake Superior State			W 3-1	
<i>Sunday 1/25</i>				
Women's Hockey at Northeastern			L 2-1	
<i>Monday 1/26</i>				
Men's Basketball vs. Georgetown			W 65-60	
<i>Tuesday 1/27</i>				
Women's Hockey at Northeastern			L 2-1	
<i>Wednesday 1/28</i>				
Women's Basketball at Boston College			L 76-42	

Schedules

<i>Friday 1/30</i>		
Men's and Women's Track at Boston University		10 a.m.
Men's Hockey at Boston College		7 p.m.
<i>Saturday 1/31</i>		
Swimming and Diving vs. Vermont		11 a.m.
Women's Basketball vs Seton Hall		2 p.m.
Men's Hockey vs. UMass-Lowell		7 p.m.
Men's and Women's Track at Boston University		10 a.m.
Women's Hockey at New Hampshire		2 p.m.
<i>Sunday 2/1</i>		
Men's Basketball vs. Seton Hall		Noon
Women's Hockey vs. New Hampshire		2 p.m.

Standings

Men's Basketball Big East Standings

Team	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
Pittsburgh	6-1	.857	20-1	.952
Providence	5-1	.833	14-3	.824
Connecticut	4-1	.800	16-3	.842
Notre Dame	4-2	.667	10-6	.625
Syracuse	3-2	.600	13-3	.813
Seton Hall	3-2	.600	13-4	.765
Miami	3-3	.500	13-7	.650

Women's Hockey East Standings

Team	Hockey East		Overall	
	W-L-T	Pts.	W-L-T	Pts.
New Hampshire	7-0-1	15	12-7-3	27
Maine	5-4-1	11	8-10-3	20
Northeastern	3-3-2	8	7-8-2	16
Providence	3-2-1	7	7-10-2	16
Connecticut	3-4-1	7	7-12-3	17
Boston College	0-8-0	0	5-11-2	12

Men's basketball: not your father's Friars

The Friars extend winning streak to six games and vault into top 25 with Big East victories over No. 4 UConn and Georgetown

BY RYAN DURKAY '05
SPORTS STAFF

MEN'S BASKETBALL nationally ranked No. 6 Pittsburgh, at 5-1, and 14-3 overall.

The Friars have cracked the Top 25 in both the Coaches' and Associated Press poll at 24 and 23 respectively. However, it is not their success that makes this team different than any other team before, but the way the team goes about getting wins.

The talent level is there and it is obvious. Providence has a legitimate First-Team All-American candidate in junior forward Ryan Gomes, and two players—senior Marcus Douthitt and junior Rob Sanders—could receive the Most Improved Player of the Year award in the Big East. The Friars are also a team made up of veterans with nine players starting in at least one Big East game in their careers. Providence used both of these attributes in the past two games to get wins over Georgetown and against No. 4 Connecticut on the road in Hartford.

"We're playing well and things are starting to come our way, but we have to keep getting better," said senior guard Sheiku Kabba. "We're off to a good start, that's all."

However, this year's Friars team is much different from any other in recent history. There is calmness to them, and that cool attitude is what is most special about them. In prior seasons, Providence has been known to compete against and challenge the big time programs, but not to prevail against them. This year, though it is a completely different story as the Friars are 2-1 against teams in the



PETE TAVIS '05/The Cowl

top 25 and 7-3 against teams in the RPI top 100.

Providence showed its abilities against Connecticut on Saturday. The Huskies came into the year a preseason favorite to win the National Championship, but the Friars looked like the better team. Providence jumped out to an early lead behind the excellent play of Gomes, who had 17 points in the first half.

The Friars proved their depth in the second half after Gomes received his fourth foul. PC closed the game out while Gomes was on the bench behind the play of Kabba, who had 10 second half points.

"They just played with a lot of confidence even though I wasn't out there," Gomes said. "That's a good thing about this team, it doesn't rely on just one person."

Speaking of Gomes, his play against Villanova and Connecticut earned him a bushel of honors. Gomes was named Big East Player of the Week for the third time this season and fourth time in his career. ESPN.com and FoxSports.com also awarded Gomes with their Player of the Week awards. Lastly, Gomes has finally been brought up in All-American discussions after his eye-popping

performance against UConn.

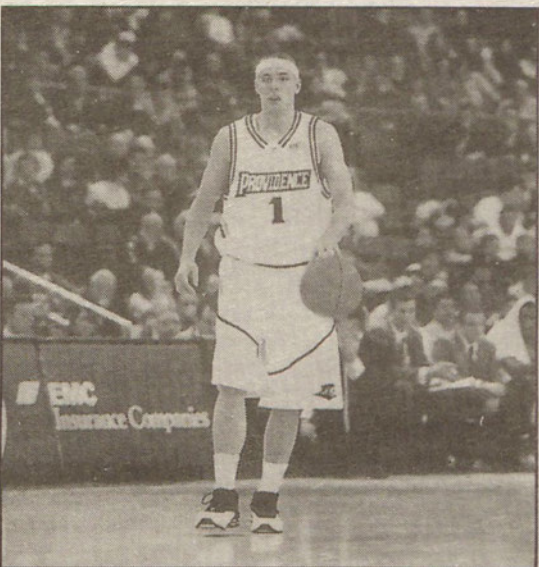
In the Friars most recent game against Georgetown it was almost like two passing elevators, with Providence's program rising and Georgetown's program falling. The Friars went into the game looking for revenge against the Hoyas who had beaten them in three straight games and ended their season the last two years.

It was no contest from the start. Providence used its suffocating zone defense, which has been strong as of late, to jump out to an early lead and never look back. The guards led the team to a 65-50 win behind sophomore Donnie McGrath's 18 points, Kabba's 15 and freshman Dwight Brewington's 12.

However, it was the defense that was just superb. During the six game win streak, including five in conference, the Friars defense has given up an average of 64.5 PPG.

"Our defense is becoming our staple," said Head Coach Tim Welsh. "Any time you hold someone under 35 percent [shooting], you most likely are going to win. The zone is really starting to be more active and move together."

The Friars are off to their best start in history of Big East play, and the five straight conference wins is the first such



PETE TAVIS '05/The Cowl

(Left) Junior Ryan Gomes registered a double-double against No. 4 Connecticut to lead the Friars to an impressive conference win.

(Above) Sophomore Donnie McGrath spear-headed PC's effort against Big East foe Georgetown, scoring 18 points and handing out five assists.

streak since the 2000-01 season. The Friars have proved that they can win in any fashion. The Friars don't do anything flashy except win, and right now, that's all that matters. That's what makes this team different than any other Friar team in the past. The talent, experience and mentality bring a deadly new combination to the Providence basketball scene.

"We're in a pretty good spot," said Kabba. "Our main thing these last five games was protecting our home court. We did that and got one at UConn, so we're perfect. We're on top of the [Big] East right now, but we know it's early and we have to keep on getting better."

The team certainly is in a good spot, and a big help will come with the return of junior forward—and the team's second leading scorer—Rob Sanders, on Sunday against Seton Hall.

Everything seems to be falling into place for the Friars, but there is still a lot of the season left to play. However, this is a different Friar team and they know that they can't rest on their laurels. All the praise they have earned thus far is great, but the Friars have an opportunity to make this a truly special season if they continue to work hard and execute.

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Lady Friars struggle at midpoint of season

PC sputters in losses to Dartmouth and Northeastern; Friars tied for fourth in Hockey East play

BY PAT BROWN '05
SPORTS STAFF

Though lacking any delusions of Democratic presidential nomination grandeur, Providence College Women's Hockey is still preparing to make New Hampshire its battleground this week, as it approaches a critical juncture in its 2003-2004 season.

With a little more than half of this year's games already in the books, Providence will look to this weekend's home-and-home series versus the University of New Hampshire in order to get their season back on track, having been derailed at numerous stops along the way since autumn.

Similar to the Democratic presidential hopefuls, this week's stop in the Granite State could ultimately decide the fate of this year's campaign. After suffering a pair of losses in the past few days, the Friars face the sobering reality that salvaging this season could very well be contingent upon a stellar showing this weekend at No. 8 ranked UNH.

Last Wednesday, the Friars hosted No. 2 ranked Dartmouth in the hopes of seeking revenge for a 7-2 dropped decision earlier in the year. Unfortunately, all hopes of serving up cold revenge for the visitors melted away



PETE TAVIS '05/The Cowl

Senior defenseman Kelli Halcisak registered a hat-trick in Providence's 8-6 loss to nationally ranked No. 2 Dartmouth on Wednesday Jan. 22. Wednesday's loss in addition to Providence's 2-1 defeat at the hands of Northeastern, drops the Friars to 7-10-2 on the season and 3-2-1 record in Hockey East play where they are tied for fourth place with Connecticut.

as the Big Green emerged victorious with an 8-6 win.

PC got off to a flying start in the first period when senior Kelli Halcisak netted her first of three goals on the day. Her shorthanded solo sortie on the penalty kill resulted in an early 1-0 lead for the home side.

The Big Green soon pulled out their big guns, however, scoring four unanswered goals over the next 20 minutes. Sophomore Katelynn Laffin

cut the deficit in half midway through the second, only for Dartmouth to extend the lead to four by the beginning of the third period.

The 6-2 margin at the onset of the final session elicited an electrifying explosion of offense from the Friars, with Halcisak rounding out her hat-trick and junior Ashley Payton tallying her third goal of the season. Just when PC looked to be on the threshold of finding an equalizer, Dartmouth capitalized on an fortunate bounce off the glass from a neutral zone clearance, pushing the score to 7-5.

Junior Hilary Greaves would pull Providence back within one late into regulation, but ultimately, six Friar goals were not enough to topple the Ivy League visitors. Other notable performances included sophomore Karen Thatcher, who earned three assists, and sophomore goaltender Jana Budgen, who stopped 25 shots.

Head Coach Bob Deraney expressed amazement at the way both sides performed on the day. "It was just great players making great plays. They took

their turns making great plays, and we took our turn making great plays. I think that it was just some world-class players playing a world-class game - it was very exciting."

Deraney and his players traveled to Northeastern on Sunday, looking to play an equally exciting brand of hockey and steal a valuable two points from their conference rivals. The Friars took the lead early in the second period, courtesy of freshman Sonny Watrous's fourth goal in as many games. Junior Rush Zimmerman and senior Darlene Stephenson assisted on the play.

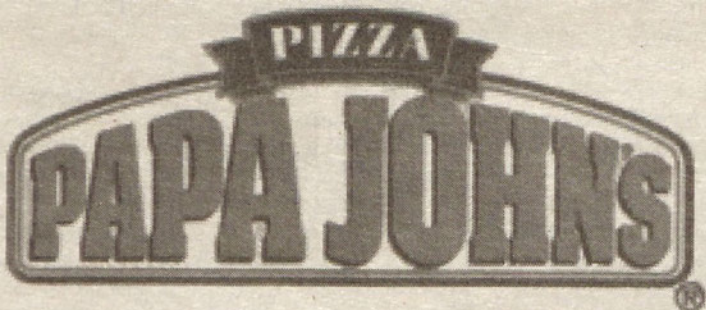
PC could not increase their lead, as the Hockey East Defensive Player of the Week, Northeastern netminder Chanda Gunn, made some amazing saves between the pipes en route to stopping 35 of 36 shots on the day. Inspired by the performance of their golden Gunn, the Huskies grabbed two late goals in the third period, sinking the Friars by a score of 2-1.

Coach Deraney offered a mixed assessment of the team's display. "Even though we have experience, learning patience and situational awareness is a difficult thing. We had enough goals to win and it was like we felt we had to get number two. We just needed to continue to play good, solid, fundamental defense. When you're only ahead by one goal, every play's important and you have to finish them. You have to be aware of the situation and be comfortable playing with a small margin of error, and we're still working towards that," he said.

The setbacks suffered these past two games dropped the Friars' record to 7-10-2 overall and 3-2-1 in the Hockey East. Nevertheless, the team is relishing the opportunity to clash with the Wildcats this weekend. Providence will play at UNH on Saturday and then play host on Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at Schneider Arena.

"Our situational awareness couldn't kick in at a better time," said Deraney. "I look to the future with tremendous optimism. If we win both games this weekend, they've got two losses, we've got two losses. We still have a lot of hockey left [and] we're definitely making headway in the right direction."

With any luck, the results from PC's next few games will reflect the team's resolve to turn things around in the second half of the season. They can begin by doing what any good presidential candidate would do in New Hampshire - bask in the brilliance of their primary colors.



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	Min	FG/FGA	FT/FTA	Reb.	A	PTS.
PROVIDENCE						
NWAFILI	33	3/10	7/11	13	1	13
FREEBURG	24	0/5	2/2	3	1	2
BAUGH	28	3/6	0/0	2	2	7
FURSTENBURG	24	3/4	0/0	3	1	6
QUINN	28	2/7	2/3	2	1	6
BLACKWELL	12	2/6	0/1	3	0	4
FABOR	12	0/6	0/0	2	0	0
SNYDER	12	0/5	0/0	2	0	0
GILMORE	8	1/3	0/0	0	0	2
KEEFE	11	0/2	0/0	1	0	0
COPELAND	8	1/2	1/2	3	0	2
TEAM	200	15/56	11/18	34	6	42
BOSTON COLLEGE						
QUEENAN	19	6/8	0/0	4	2	12
PARHAM	14	2/3	1/2	2	0	5
LEAHY	11	3/4	0/0	2	3	6
DEVENY	23	3/10	3/4	3	2	9
JACOBS	26	6/10	2/2	2	1	18
SMITH	3	0/0	0/0	0	1	0
MARSHALL	25	2/6	0/0	2	2	4
DORSEY	5	2/3	0/0	2	0	4
RESS	19	3/7	1/2	5	2	7
DROESCH	24	1/5	2/2	3	7	5
WARREN	8	0/0	0/0	2	0	0
VOGTS	5	1/1	0/0	0	0	2
MACCHA	18	2/3	0/1	5	3	4
TEAM	200	31/60	9/13	32	23	76

For a full game recap, check out
www.thecowl.com

Smith spins records

Women's and men's teams have strong showings; Smith finishes 3000 meter event in fastest time in world this season

BY LARRY HARVEY '05
SPORTS STAFF

The 2003-2004 season is off to a very promising start for the Providence College Women's Cross Country team. They competed across town at Brown

INDOOR TRACK University on January 17 at the Women's Challenge Cup. After a number of first place

finishes last week at the URI Invitational, the Friars success continued at the Challenge Cup.

Providence delivered a one-two punch in the mile as junior Mary Cullen finished with a time of 4:48.81, just ahead of senior Lisa Cappello who finished at 5:00.38. Cullen and Cappello also finished first and second, respectively, at the previous meet at URI. Junior Fiona Crombie added to the team's success, as she also had a first place finish in the 1,000 meters with a time of 2:58.

However, the most impressive finish of the day belonged to junior Kimberly Smith. Smith won the 3,000 meters with a time of 9:04.90, the fastest in the world this season. Smith beat her closest competitor by more than 1:15.00, and was just over ten seconds ahead of the next fastest time in the NCAA.

Coach Ray Treacy said he expects Smith to continue this kind of performance throughout the season.



Junior Kim Smith won the 3000 meter event at the Women's Challenge Cup on Jan. 17, running the fastest time in the world by finishing the race in a time of 9:04.90.

Treacy also said that the time was a combination of hard work and skill.

"It's a combination of everything. No matter how talented you are, a runner still has to work very hard to be the best they can be, and she certainly does that in this regard," he said.

The men's track team also competed on Jan. 17, but traveled to Boston, Mass. to compete in the Terrier Cup. The Friars finished in fourth place overall in the meet, placing behind the University of Rhode Island, University of Maine, and Boston University. Sophomore Martin Fagan and junior Dylan Wykes placed first and second in the mile event, finishing with times of 4:08.61 and 4:09.55 respectively. Junior Liam Reale also took first in the 800-meter event, finishing in a time of 1:50.39.

SportShorts

All the news we couldn't fit in...but did.

Former Friar on 2004 Team Canada Under-22 Roster

It was announced yesterday that sophomore goaltender Jana Bugden of the Providence College Women's Hockey team was named to the 2004 Team Canada Women's Under-22 roster which will be competing for the European Air Canada Cup in Germany on Feb 5-7.

Bugden, of Corner Brook, Newfoundland will be making her debut with the team in its three games at the tournament, starting with Finland.

So far this season, Bugden has surrendered 39 goals in 15 games, registering 293 saves for a .883 save percentage. The Friars are currently tied for fourth place with Connecticut in Hockey East play with a 7-10-2 overall record.

Lacrosse lands sixth recruit for 2005 season

Monday, Providence College Lacrosse Head Coach Chris Burdick announced the commitment of a sixth recruit to join the team for the 2004-05 season. Robert John Mamontagne, of Pittsford-Mendon High School in Rochester, NY, is the sixth recruit to commit to joining the Friar program.

Five other players have signed National Letters of Intent. Announced in mid-December was the addition of midfielder Pat Bonanno (Lido Beach, N.Y.), long stick midfielder John-Paul DiMartino (Dix Hills, N.Y.), attackman Devin McBride (Marblehead, Mass.), attackman Ryan Nixon (Wyckoff, N.J.) and attackman Colin Reposa (East Falmouth, Mass.).

Ryan Gomes earns accolades for play last week

Junior forward Ryan Gomes of the Providence College Men's Basketball team earned ESPN.com, Wooden Watch, FoxSports.com, and BIG EAST Player of the Week accolades for his play this past week.

Gomes led PC with 27 points against Villanova on Wednesday, Jan. 21. On Saturday against nationally ranked No. 4 Connecticut, Gomes dominated the first half, pouring in 17 points. Gomes finished the game with a game-high 26 points, and 12 rebounds to help the Friars pull off the upset.

On the season, Gomes leads Providence in both scoring and rebounding. Gomes ranks third in the Big East in scoring, averaging 19.6 points per game and fourth in the conference in rebounding, swiping 9.8 rebounds per game.

The accolades mark the third time this season that Gomes has been awarded Wooden Watch player of the week honors. Additionally, he has earned Big East Player of the Week honors for the third time this season.

Pitino takes medical leave from coaching

Former Providence College Men's Basketball Coach and current Louisville Basketball Head Coach Rick Pitino has taken a medical leave from coaching due to a "urological pain" in his left side that he has been suffering from for the past four to five months. Louisville assistant Kevin Willard will coach the nationally ranked No. 4 team during Pitino's absence. Pitino hopes to return to the team by the weekend.



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Men's Hockey has clean sweep in Superior

Hockey East Defensive Player of the Week Bobby Goepfert teams with strong offensive effort to end PC's winless streak at five games. The Friars swept the weekend series to improve to 10-8-6 for the season

BY STEVE O'KEEFE '05
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Providence College swept a two game set versus Lake Superior State at Taffy Abel Arena on Friday, Jan 23 and Saturday, Jan. 24 by counts of 3-0 and 3-1, respectively.

MEN'S HOCKEY

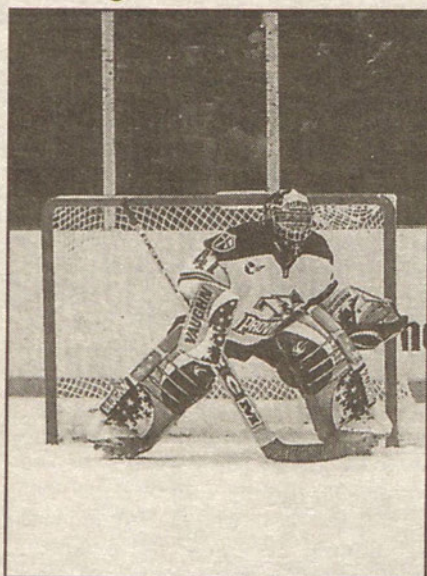
Victories have proven hard to come by lately for the Friars, as they entered Michigan on a five game winless streak. In the course of two nights, that dubious slide had changed into a two game win streak for PC, thanks in large part to the play of sophomore net minder Bobby Goepfert.

In Providence's 3-1 triumph, Goepfert stopped 29 of the 30 shots he faced to protect an early 3-0 lead. The offense got off to a hot start and contributed with a three goal outburst in the first period. Freshman defenseman Dinos Stamoulis scored his first collegiate goal at the 6:14 mark to put PC up 1-0. Junior Chris Chaput assisted on the opening goal.

Providence then extended the lead on a pair of goals that came from deflected shots. Senior Jonathan Goodwin tallied a power play goal less than three minutes after Stamoulis to increase the lead to 2-0 (9:09).

The two goal advantage was all Goepfert and the Friars would need, but freshman Colin McDonald found the back of the net (12:27) to put PC up by a 3-0 count.

"Saturday night we came out flying



KRISTIN ELLIS '05/The Cowl

Sophomore goaltender Bobby Goepfert posted his second career shutout in PC's 3-0 victory against Lake Superior State. The next night, Goepfert stopped all but one shot he faced, as the Friars won 3-1. Junior Chris Chaput registered three points over the weekend, including the game winning goal on Friday night.

again with a lot of confidence," commented Goodwin. "We scored three quick goals in the first period and then we never looked back after that. It was big to end up getting two wins on the trip."

On Friday night, Goepfert shutout Lake Superior State en route to a 3-0 Friars win. The shutout marked the second time Goepfert has blanked the opponent in his career.

"It was a big win because our confidence was down in the dumps going into the game," added Goodwin. "To win 3-0, we did not give them much. It gave us a real big confidence boost."

The game was scoreless heading to the third stanza, and then Providence broke out of their recent slump. Junior Chris Chaput netted a goal just 1:18 into the third to give PC the lead. Classmate Jeff Mason added to the lead, scoring at the 6:31 mark. Freshman Bill McCreary



KRISTIN ELLIS '05/The Cowl

finished the scoring with an empty netter to seal the victory.

"It was a big weekend. The team got a couple of nice wins on the road," said Goepfert about the road trip. "It was good for us to get both of those wins up there."

The award is good, but it does not take precedence over the team's accomplishments. The most important part of the weekend was getting the wins. But it is great to be recognized. I've been able to put together a few solid games here. I'm hungry to play and glad to help us win.

Bobby Goepfert

With his play against Lake Superior State, Goepfert received Hockey East

Defensive Player of the Week honors. In total, the goaltender stopped 49 of the 50 shots he faced over the weekend.

"The award is good, but it does not take precedence over the team's accomplishments. The most important part of the weekend was getting the wins," added Goepfert. "But, it is great to be recognized. I've been able to put together a few solid games here. I'm feeling better and better each game. I'm hungry to play and glad that I can help us win."

The weekend series sweep improved Providence's record to 10-8-6 for the season.

The Friars next skate comes on the road against Hockey East foe Boston College on Friday, Jan. 30. PC's main rival has posted an impressive 18-3-3 overall record including a stellar 11-1-2 record in Hockey East play. Nationally ranked No. 2, Boston College has 24 points in conference play, and 39 points overall.



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Driscoll: discusses state of PC athletics

continued from back page

past year, but even having done that, he still is six scholarships shy of being fully funded and that will be part of our strategic plan. Coach Yow [women's basketball], this is her second year here, and she is in the process of recruiting her student athletes, and in two years time when she has all of her student athletes here, I'm confident that we will have success there. Men's Soccer had a great year this year, they made it to the final four in the Big East Championship and they're doing that on a field that certainly is not up to par with others and I think in a year from now when we build a new soccer facility, we'll jump to the next level. Men's and Women's Cross Country, we're having a celebration today, they placed third in the nation, the men finished extremely high as well, and they're doing that without a track. And then Women's Field Hockey and Lacrosse, when we build the field hockey/lacrosse field, there's no question that Diane [Madl] and Chris [Burdick] will have the opportunity to recruit even a better level of student athletes. The Softball field is about to be 100 percent finished, and it's almost fully funded, so we have a chance of being strong there as well. Then all of our other programs, certainly are continuing to work hard, but it's not fair to judge those other coaches because they don't have the scholarships and they're not competing apples to apples.

What do you say to teams that have improved, for example Tennis, which didn't have a strong record, but improved this year and qualified for the Regional Championships but were unable to go because it wasn't in the budget?

First of all, we celebrate all of our victories no matter how small it is...Yeah, there are certain programs that because we don't have the resources, they aren't fully funded, that there are limitations that we have, and that's unfortunate, but that's the reality of it. I guess my job is to appreciate everybody out there. And it's by getting around and saying thank you and celebrating the successes that they have, so they feel good about what they are doing. Whether it's a hand written note, or a phone call, we try to make that part of our culture here where coaches and people are appreciated. We have coaches meetings and student athlete advisory meetings, where we ask ev-

erybody prior to the meetings to appreciate somebody...and I think those things go a long way to feeling as though what you are doing is valued. And it's how they're treated in the training room, the weight room, whether you're a non scholarship athlete or the best basketball player, you should feel respected as a student athlete. And I think we've worked hard to achieve that...life's not fair; of course, there's a tiered approach to things—not everything's equal.

I want to ask you about the Big East. What are your thoughts on everything that went on last summer?

Well I'm extremely excited about what came out of those discussions. Obviously it was a difficult seven or eight months for everyone involved because of the uncertainty, but if you look at it from a basketball perspective...we came out of it extremely well in terms of the basketball conference—there's no doubt in my mind that it will be the best basketball conference in the nation, which is great for Providence College. But it has a double-edged sword as well. You're replacing three programs [Miami, Boston College, and Virginia Tech] that were average at best in basketball with Cincinnati, Louisville, and Marquette, all top-25 programs. From a TV standpoint, a revenue standpoint, an NCAA standpoint, it's fabulous, but for Providence, it presents a new challenge for facilities, commitment, and to be able to step up to the next level because the competition will be stiffer.

The flip side of it, the football part of the Big East got hurt, obviously...and what I mean by hurt, I mean financially because of the TV contract that was readily available to top-10 teams. We need to, as a conference, figure out how we can continue to build a successful football conference and then capitalize on the real strength of that basketball league...I think there's great leadership with Mike Tranchese...I think the presidents, the chancellors, and the athletic directors of the remaining business people need to be commended for the way they conducted the business. Honestly, openly, forthright. The Conference USA programs that came in, we gave them the opportunity to have the discussions. It wasn't the way it was done with the ACC, where it was very clandestine and behind closed doors—it was not a positive thing for college athletics. So I'm very excited about it be-

cause the flip side was we could have been totally out of the league playing in a much lower profile league, and PC Basketball would be a totally different if it went that way. I think we're in good shape for at least the next seven years and that we need to capitalize on this opportunity and raise ourselves up if we're going to be a competitor.

You've clearly committed yourself to improving the experience of student-athletes at PC. But what about regular students? What steps have you taken to improve their experiences?

Well we've tried to get a sense of what the general student population expects from our program. I've conducted a number of individual town meetings with the student population to try and get a sense of what they want. We've tried to do a better job of getting students to come to games—we cut the ticket price in half for basketball games, we've eliminated having to sit in assigned seats, now those who get there first can sit wherever they want, we've increased the number of buses that we have so students are not standing outside freezing, we give away t-shirts, we have functions in McPhails... We try to keep our student athletes a part of the college community. I speak in classes to students about what we're doing and try to be as accessible as possible. And so, we're really trying to link everything that we do to the campus. I think we've done a pretty good job, but certainly we can always do better.

You've mentioned having student meetings to find out what regular students expect. How are they going? What are you learning from them?

I've been disappointed by the numbers, we might have received 15 or 20 students that would come periodically. But those who do come, they give candid, open, honest feedback. And I think that there is a lot of misinformation out there on how student athletes are treated...so it provided me with the opportunity to talk about those issues and clarify some of those. The bus issues—standing outside in the cold, or the cost of tickets, a lot of the things that I wouldn't know when designing policy if I didn't have these discussions. I think that it's been helping. But I think there needs to be more interest... But the fact that anybody shows and expresses their opinions helps me do my job better.

Robert Driscoll: the facts

2002-present—Athletic Director/Assistant Vice President for Athletics, Providence College

2001-02—Senior Associate Athletic Director, Capital Projects, Cal Berkeley

2000-01—Acting Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics & Recreational Sports, Cal Berkeley

1974 Graduated from Ithaca College with a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education

1975—earned his Master's of Science degree in Physical education/Psychology of sports from Ithaca College

SPORTS

JANUARY 29, 2004

This AD is a man with a vision

BY LAUREN DeMAURO '05
SPORTS EDITOR

If you've ever been to any Providence College Athletic event, you've probably seen PC Athletic Director Bob Driscoll. He's everywhere. At games cheering on the teams, in meetings, even around campus talking to students about how to make the program better.

Despite a host of changes on the PC campus, one thing has remained constant: the enthusiasm of Driscoll. In his two-plus years at the helm of Friar athletics, he has worked to enact his plans for the future, concentrating on fundraising efforts, formulating a mission statement for the Athletic Department and bringing the College to the next level.

His dedication, commitment, and involvement at the student, athletic and administrative levels have translated into a collaborative vision of enthusiasm and inspiration.

The Cowl sat down with Driscoll for the third year in a row to discuss the progress of the athletic program. Here is a sampling of the interview. The full-length version will be published on *TheCowl.com*

What would you pinpoint as your accomplishments here at PC?

Bob Driscoll: I wouldn't pinpoint anything that I've accomplished. I think that as a staff and as an Athletic Department, we have accomplished some exciting things. One of the goals that I had when I first came in was to develop a culture of expectation, one that we could compete successfully at the highest level. The three things that we really focused on was trying to be one of the most respected programs in the nation—so that we do our business with dignity and class. And what I'm most excited about is that people are really starting to buy into that concept that 'hey, we can be a model program, and very special.' And that's taken a couple of years to get people to buy into it, but I really believe that our student athletes and our coaches are.

Something that you had mentioned in the past is your "master plan." What is the status of the turf field, soccer and track complex, and new wellness center?

Where we stand right now, is that we're on track to build an artificially surfaced, multi-purposed facility for lacrosse, field hockey, and for intramurals and recreation in the Peterson parking lot starting hopefully at the conclusion of graduation this spring. With the timeline, if everything goes according to plan, we'll have it up and running by Sept. 15, [2004]. What we're trying to determine right now is if we can put parking under there, and if so, how much...



The second piece of the plan has to do with the fitness center that will not only be for athletics but for the entire student population, which is absolutely critical in terms of student welfare...Then hopefully, a year for now, we will be able to raise the necessary funding to build a soccer complex out here on Hendricken with an eight lane track for our men's and women's Track and Cross Country teams. That would hopefully be about a year out...but our first task is to get the artificial surface field built.

Providence College finally purchased the Valueland property (located on Smith Street) last year after lengthy discussions with the city of Providence. In last year's interview, you pinpointed that property as one that would be used for practice areas for student athletes....Has this project been pushed to the back burner for the time being? Or for good?

That's a good question. I think by putting the Astroturf field in, it will take a lot of the demand for intramural and for practicing—it's something that can be used almost 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Valueland property, I think in the long run, could be used as backup facilities, but the fact [is] that it's located off-campus and there are issues about transporting student athletes or students back and forth. In an ideal world, you'd have all of the students practicing and playing on campus...I think it was a smart decision for the College to purchase it, but I'm not sure that they are going to develop it within the next few years.

In order to complete these projects, fundraising is obviously a necessary component, and it has been one of the things that you have really focused on. One of the newest components of your fundraising plan is the Friars Forever program which you implemented earlier this year. Tell us about it.

Well, we came up with the plan simply because we were the only school in the Big East that didn't have some sense of donation obligation with regard to seats. We decided to start



program, it has been unbelievably successful. Were working with the alumni right now and Bob Deraney to have a special event. We're also going to honor the women at halftime of one of our upcoming basketball games, and we're going to present them with their Hockey East Championship rings, which will be a nice celebration.

You had mentioned retiring jerseys. You have a plan to retire at least one. Any hints?

I guess you could use your imagination with that one. Out there there are some really very talented people that we want to recognize. We haven't even had a committee meeting to finalize it, we have to get final approval—but there are some very talented people that deserve to have that honor. We're planning on trying to do one of the jerseys at probably one of the last two Men's Basketball home games this year. The issue will be whether this person that we have in mind will be back for the actual event.

There's a trend where Athletic Directors of smaller schools (like Providence) eventually get courted by larger schools to run their programs. You're in the third year of your contract. How long do you plan on being at PC?

My goal is to do the very best job that I can for whatever length of time I am at Providence College. And I have no anticipation of going anywhere else at this juncture. I have a great love and respect for this institution. I think there is a lot of unfinished business or goals that I would like to achieve here. But, having said that, you have to do what is in the best interest of your family. And I don't think you ever say you'd never go anywhere if you don't know what life has in store for you, but I guess all I can say is that I am very happy and excited to be here and am appreciative that the College saw fit to give me the job. And, I think that we're making a difference. So I'll deal with those issues when they come. But right now, I'm very happy at Providence.

In past interviews, you've stressed the importance of finding those sports at which PC can compete successfully at the current moment and giving those the extra push to go the extra mile. How is this goal coming along?

I think we're making progress. Certainly our main focus was to get the Men's Basketball team up to the next level, because I think that it's the engine that pulls the train...I think that's in great shape under Coach Welsh, I really feel confident about that. The Women's Ice Hockey, I think, is in great shape under Coach Deraney. We did add two additional scholarships to this program this



Above left and bottom: PETE TAVIS '05. Above right: Cowl Archives

small, we have over 12,000 seats at the Dunk, but we only took 2600 of those seats. We asked for a donor commitment from anywhere from \$100 to \$500. Our goal was to sell 80 percent of those seats, and I'm really happy to say that we've sold 85 percent of those seats.

We had three "town meetings" where everyone could come and express their concerns and issues, and it was my opportunity to ask them to help us become a great program. I think the fact that 85 percent renewed was an indication of their support.

About how much extra revenue did you pull in this year?

...We've generated anywhere from \$600,000 to \$700,000 in additional revenue.

Tell us about some of the changes made to the Dunkin Donuts Center and about discussions with the state about a new facility downtown.

The discussions have gone extremely well, and I feel very confident that hopefully within the next six months the resources necessary to refurbish the building with a new video-scoreboard, a new sound system, new seating, locker-rooms, concession stand, everything we need to have a state of the art facility will be accepted and in place so that as we enter into next year, Providence College, the Providence Bruins, and the people of Rhode Island will have a facility that we can be really proud of. And that really is the cornerstone of our future

success, and I think that it has gone extremely well so far, it just has not been completed yet.

This year is an important year—it honors the 30th anniversary of the 1973-74 Men's Final Four team as well as 30 years of Friars Women's hockey—where PC has been at the forefront of popularizing hockey as well as being the home of numerous Olympians in the sport. What's the importance of each?

We have been working hard trying to put together a celebration for the 30th, actually it's the 31st anniversary of the first Final Four team. And we had had a plan of doing a big function for six, seven hundred people at the end of February honoring that team, Dave Gavitt, and maybe even retiring some jerseys. But it turns out, we couldn't get a location big enough to host the numbers that we wanted...So we made the decision that rather than doing it halfway because it was so important, we would put it off until next fall, and I think that the date its set for is October 15th of 16th, but that's not carved in stone. We're definitely going to celebrate that team, and each year we're going to do a celebration of Providence College tradition and next year we're going to do that on the 15th. But we will hopefully retire a jersey at the end of this season. So there's about four or five men out there on the basketball side who probably deserve to have their numbers retired.

With respect to the women's